

Papal envoy meets factional leaders in Lebanon peace bid

BEIRUT (AP) — The Vatican's Foreign Minister Monsignor Achille Silvestrini crossed Beirut's battlefronts twice Monday to meet Christian and Muslim leaders in a peace mission to end Lebanon's 11-year-old civil war.

Silvestrini, who arrived in Christian east Beirut Sunday, drove across the capital's "Green Line" to meet Prime Minister Rashid Karami, a Sunni Muslim, and Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini, a Shi'ite.

After a 45-minute closed-door meeting with Mr. Karami, the papal envoy and four aides drove back to the east side to lunch with Lebanon's embattled Falangist President Amin Gemayel.

Machinegun fire crackled in the distance and two Israeli warplanes crashed the sound barrier over the city, causing sonic booms, as Silvestrini conferred with Mr. Karami in his West Beirut office.

The "Green Line," which slices Beirut into Christian and Muslim territory, was relatively quiet as Silvestrini's 11-car convoy sped through the only crossing open between the two sectors.

But machinegun duels broke out shortly after the motorcade crossed back to the east side, forcing authorities to close the crossing. Snipers have kept at least three other crossings closed for months.

"There was not a single shot during our trip," said the driver of Silvestrini's black limousine. "The Monsignor and his entourage didn't look upset at all."

Speaking to reporters later, Silvestrini said his mission reflected the Vatican's "hope to help this country to regain peace and unity."

Asked whether his contacts with Christian religious and political leaders on Sunday and his

contribution "to the forces of good will on all sides to avoid the rekindling of antagonistic struggle and armed encounters."

The Vatican stepped in to try to avert a new round of civil war apparently at the request of Falangist leaders divided over Mr. Gemayel's stand.

Silvestrini is expected to try to mend those rifts by encouraging a unified Christian stand to deal with future peace talks.

The Vatican has been increasingly involved in the Lebanese crisis by holding talks with Lebanese leaders and issuing frequent calls for unity based on peaceful co-existence between Christians and Muslims.

Mr. Gemayel himself conferred with Pope John Paul II in Rome after a visit to France last month. Lebanese press reports have said the Vatican also received views from Christian religious leaders who have sided with Syria.

These included Patriarch Maximos Hakim, the Greek Catholic prelate, who visited Rome recently.

Amid the feuding between rival Christian factions, Silvestrini's mission faces formidable obstacles in the Muslim camp.

Nabih Berri, the leader of the Shi'ite Amal militia, was recently quoted by the Paris-based *As-Sayad* magazine as saying the Vatican initiative was welcome only if it also sought to end Israel's occupation of a border strip in South Lebanon.

Walid Junblatt, leader of the Syrian-backed Druze Progressive Socialist Party has criticised Vatican efforts.

Iranian-backed Shi'ite fundamentalists have branded the Roman Catholic Church's efforts "an interference."



'Innocent' foreigners should be spared, Fadlallah says

BEIRUT (R) — An influential Shi'ite Muslim cleric was quoted as saying Westerners in Lebanon, where Muslim kidnappers hold 17 foreign hostages, should not be held responsible for their countries' policies.

"No Westerner should bear the consequences of the policy of his country or party, if his innocence is established," Sayyed Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah said in an interview Sunday with Lebanon's *Sahafiya* News Agency.

Fadlallah, presumed spiritual guide of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God), added: "All Americans and Europeans who are not spies, criminals or agents should be respected."

"Nonetheless, Westerners are the spoiled children of the world compared with the peoples of the Third World, especially its Muslims, who are victims of massacres and oppression."

Fadlallah and Hizbollah deny any links with the clandestine Islamic Jihad (holy war) group, said to be holding eight French and four American hostages in Lebanon.

An anonymous caller said it kidnapped four crewmen of the French television network Antenne-2, seized on Saturday as they returned from filming a Hizbollah rally in the Shi'ite Bir Al Abed district in Beirut's southern suburbs.

Fadlallah was the main speaker at the rally, commemorating a car bomb attack that killed at least 75 people near his home there a year ago.

Kuwait hangs Indian for killing 2 people, stealing

KUWAIT (R) — An Indian was hanged here Monday after being convicted of killing a woman and boy and stealing cash and jewelry from his female victim.

The Kuwait News Agency reported. It named the killer as Ranja Tobal but gave no other details.

He was hanged after a court verdict. The victim was a 25-year-old woman who was killed in a rooming house in Kuwait City.

The court also sentenced him to 10 years in prison for stealing. The stolen items included cash, jewelry, and a car.

The Indian was arrested in Kuwait after a complaint was filed by the victim's family. He was held in custody for several months before the trial.

The court found him guilty of the charges and sentenced him to the death penalty. The execution was carried out by hanging.

The Indian was born in India and had been living in Kuwait for several years. He was working as a laborer before the incident.

The court also ordered the confiscation of the stolen items. The items were found in a rooming house in Kuwait City.

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Lebanese fighters who ambushed Israelis said to be from Hizbollah

ZARIT (AP) — Shi'ite Lebanese commanders who ambushed an Israeli patrol shouting "Allah Akbar" appeared to be members of the radical Hizbollah group, said Israeli soldiers who were in the patrol.

One Israeli soldier and two commanders were killed in Sunday's pre-dawn attack five kilometers north of the Israeli border, and five Israeli soldiers were injured. A third commander was wounded and escaped, the Israeli military command said.

Maj.-Gen. Ori Orr, head of Northern Command, said the commanders were attempting to attack civilian settlements by crossing into Israel in the area of this farming community 45 kilometers north east of Haifa.

The soldiers who were ambushed said the way the commanders behaved and the way they were dressed indicated they were members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, or "Party of God."

The commanders were bearded and carrying copies of the Koran, along with Soviet-made Kalashnikov rifles and grenades, the Jerusalem Post reported Monday.

Israel blames Hizbollah for capturing two Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon on Feb. 17, although responsibility was claimed by a group calling itself the Islamic Resistance Front. The fate of the two soldiers is still unknown.

Following the capturing of the two Israeli soldiers, Israel sent 1,500 troops into South Lebanon to search for the two.

After the six-day operation, in which about 150 people were detained and 3,000 were questioned, Hizbollah moved hundreds of fighters into South Lebanon, according to U.N. officials. Shi'ite fighters put their losses during the operation at nine killed and 17 injured.

On March 1, two Palestinian commanders wearing Israeli army uniforms and skullcaps which are the mark of religious Jews were killed and a third was captured when they tried to penetrate Israel in the same area as Sunday's clash.

Israel withdrew the bulk of its troops from South Lebanon in June 1985, ending a three-year occupation. But reports say at least 1,000 Israeli soldiers remain, many as advisers to the Israeli-trained and financed South Lebanon Army (SLA), a mostly Falangist militia.

Four Israeli soldiers have been killed in the last month in South Lebanon.

with helicopters and MiG fighters," Zgehib said. "We had no anti-aircraft missiles. But at least we resisted."

War is still not far away. From fronts 15 kilometers to the south comes the dull thud of artillery explosions as Lebanese army troops trade fire with pro-Syrian militias attacking President Amin Gemayel's home village of Bikfaya.

Falangist army regulars also man most frontline positions on Mount Sannin, local residents said, although their presence is less spectacular than that of the "Lebanese Forces."

To reach the camp, the militiamen drive up in snow-sifting "rat-tracks," or use the ski-lifts of Faraya, a magnet for winter sports lovers before Lebanon's civil war erupted in 1975.

"This is the biggest ski centre in the Middle East, though I don't know about Iran," said Ramsey Nahhas, its 43-year-old manager. "Our north-facing slopes are the best in Lebanon."

On a sunny weekend, some 2,000 skiers tackle Faraya's 40 kilometers of ski runs. "We could accommodate another 2,000 but parking space is clogged by non-skiers. They may take a ride on the chairlift, but that's all," Nahhas said.

"A few shells landed here a couple of years ago, but people refused to stop skiing. They said they were used to it."

The winter season at Faraya lasts from mid-December till mid-April in a good year, but is shorter at Lebanon's five other resorts, including the famed Cedars Station in the north.

"Slopes at the Cedars face south," Nahhas said. Faraya, however, cannot match the grandeur of north Lebanon's Qadisha Gorge with its ancient monasteries and red-tiled villages stretched out below the surviving grove of cedars.

Nahhas said his company was trying to grow cedars at Faraya, but so far "the goats have been too smart for us."

A \$100 million expansion project has been gathering dust since it was commissioned by the Saudi Arabian-based Al Mabani group which gained control of the company in 1981.

"We planned new ski-runs, new lifts, hotels, recreation facilities, but like everything else in Lebanon, it will have to wait for calmer days," Nahhas said.

Lift ticket prices have soared with inflation, but the company still loses up to \$154,000 a year, mainly because of imported spare parts and other running costs.

One official said forged tickets and concessionary rates for Lebanese Forces members were also a burden. "They lack discipline. Sometimes they use the pylons for target practice."

In more peaceful times half a century ago, local villagers trudged up to the 2,463-metre Mzaar Peak carrying roughly-carved beechwood skis. "They tied them to their feet and skied down to Faraya," Nahhas reminisced.

When their leaders were arrested prosecutors said one of the group's aims was to set up a Marxist-Leninist state.

The outcome of the long drawn-out case is being closely watched by civil rights advocates elsewhere in Europe, who argue that Turkey has not completely returned to democracy and full respect for human rights, following the authoritarianism of the 1980-83 period of military rule.

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Polisario guerrillas forging national identity among tribes

By Charles Lambelin
Reuter

TINDOUF, Algeria — Polisario guerrillas, locked in a 10-year-old war against Moroccan control of the Western Sahara, say their desert territory would be a viable state.

The guerrillas have already set their sights on nationhood and have been telling the world that a solution to the Saharan dispute would be diplomatic rather than military.

At this huge tent camp near the oasis of Tindouf, officials are busy trying to forge a sense of national identity among the Saharawi people, a mostly nomadic Moorish tribe, unaccustomed to the concept of borders.

Rabat charges that they are fighting a proxy war for Algeria, Morocco's rival in the Maghreb (North African) power game.

Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi with drew crucial financial and

military backing for the guerrillas in 1984, saying Western Sahara would be a meaningless mini-state and that he was against "Balkanisation" of the Arab World.

But Polisario Secretary-General Mohammed Aziz, earlier this month said: "During the last 10 years, the SADR (Saharan Arab Democratic Republic) proved to be not only a viable state, but a reality to be reckoned with at national, regional and international levels."

He was speaking at a ceremony marking the 10th anniversary of the Polisario's self-proclaimed SADR.

The celebrations were attended by 600 delegates from 63 countries which have recognised the SADR, liberation movements and Western politicians supporting the Polisario.

"The resistance of our people, their sacrifices, their ability to face up to colonial forces for more than 13 years of a destructive war... are

a few of the factors that prove, contrary to the enemy allegations, the viability of our independence," Mr. Abdul Aziz said after watching a military parade.

He said the fact that the Saharawi were able to fight Morocco and at the same time build a nation, indicated that Western Sahara would be a viable state once peace prevailed.

Polisario officials interviewed at the celebrations spoke of Western Sahara's vast phosphate deposits and rich fishing grounds.

Mr. Abdul Aziz told a news conference the Saharawi numbered more than a quarter of a million, including those living in neighbouring countries.

The Western Sahara's exact population is disputed. It would be a key factor in a self-determination referendum, which the U.N. and the Organisation of African Unity advocate as a means of ending the crisis.

A census by Spain in 1974, a year before it started withdrawing from the territory, put the population at 73,497.

The Polisario says the people were undercounted and that Madrid did not take into account nomads who had fled Spanish colonial rule to neighbouring countries.

Moroccan officials say no more than 15,000 people fled the Western Sahara. The Moroccan census of 1982 gave a population of 163,868 for the four Western Sahara provinces it administers. But the Polisario says a majority of them are from other parts of Morocco.

Western diplomats in Algiers and U.N. relief agency officials say that even if the Saharawi were not a nation in the past, 10 years of war and life in an inhospitable desert have now resulted in a strong sense of identity.

They are impressed by the way the Polisario has organised the refugee camps, in effect the exile base of the SADR, since two thirds of the Western Sahara territory is controlled by Morocco and the rest a barren desert.

Financed by Algeria to the tune of at least \$100 million a year, according to Western diplomatic estimates, they have set up a government, built schools, hospitals and created conditions for normal life in the tent camps.

Children look healthy and all boys and girls go to school until they are about 15. The last three years of secondary schooling are done in Algerian schools.

The Polisario has established an egalitarian society with no money. There are no shops in the camps, which are run on communal basis. Food and clothing are distributed by the authorities.

Each family has its tent, the size of a large room. There are no private vehicles and no television.

With practically all adult males in the army and returning to the camps on rotation to rest, women have taken over and seem on the same footing as men.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 77311-14

PROGRAMME ONE
15:00 Koran
15:20 Cartoons
15:50 Live transmission from Alexandria of the soccer match: Morocco vs. Cameroon

17:50 Give Me A Break
18:15 Programme on Islam and development

18:40 Local Series
19:30 News programme
20:00 News in French
20:35 Arabic Series
21:20 Tomorrow's Programme
21:25 Studio '86
23:00 News Summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 Bergeval et fils
19:30 The Wolf of Saint-Denis
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The Wolf of Saint-Denis
21:00 Towards 2000
21:10 A Married Man
22:00 News in English
22:30 Murder, She Wrote

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
partly on 95.60 KHz. SW
77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Cont.
10:00 Pop Session Cont.
10:30 News Summary
10:45 Pop Session Cont.
11:00 News Bulletin
11:30 Country Music
11:45 Concert Hour
12:00 News Summary
12:15 Instruments
12:30 Old Favourites
12:45 Science Report
13:00 Pop Session
13:15 News Summary
13:30 Top Twenty
13:45 Newsdesk
14:00 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show

BBC WORLD SERVICE
630, 720, 1413 KHz.

06:00 News: 06:30 English Song
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News 07:20 24 Hours
News Summary 07:30 New Ideas 07:40
Book Choice 07:45 The World Today
08:00 News: 08:30 Rock Solid 09:00
World News 09:20 24 Hours: News
Summary 09:30 My Country in Mind
09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News
10:05 Reflections 10:15 Wish Me Luck
10:30 The Music of Richard Rodney
Bennett - from Concert Hall to Cabaret
11:00 World News 11:05 British
Press: 11:15 The World Today
11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look
Ahead 11:45 What's New 12:00 News
Summary: Discovery 12:30 Pride and
Prejudice 12:40 World News 12:45
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68:50 World News 68

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sharif Zaid visits municipality

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday called at Amman Municipality and met with Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh. Sharif Zaid thanked Mr. Rawabdeh and the municipality staff for their efforts in making the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of Arabising the Jordanian army a success. Sharif Zaid was accompanied by Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb, the chief of the general staff.

Decree approves new appointments

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday approving the appointment of Mr. Ali Khreis, former director of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), as ambassador in the Foreign Ministry and the appointment of Mr. Ibrahim Izzeddin, who had served in the Foreign Ministry, as CSC director. The decree also approved the appointment of Dr. Ahmad Al Bashairah as secretary general of the Ministry of Education and Dr. Farouk Ala'eddin as deputy director of the Jordanian Ports Corporation.

Majali reviews Arab information report

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali Monday met with Dr. Mustafa Al Masmoudi, chairman of an Arab League information committee, and his assistant Mohammad Masalha. They reviewed a report by the committee on introducing a pan Arab information strategy. The report will be distributed to all government ministries for comment before a final draft is worked out. The meeting was attended by Ministry of Education Secretary General Ahmad Al Bashairah and officials from the Ministry of Information.

Muasher fixes price of powdered milk

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher has issued a defence order fixing the price of a kilogramme of whole powdered milk, in plastic bags, at 840 fils for all consumers throughout the Kingdom.

ICEP official due in Amman today

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Regional Director of the International Cultural Exchange Programme (ICEP) Phillip Oden is expected to arrive in Amman Tuesday on an official visit to Jordan. Mr. Oden will visit a number of schools and educational institutes and will meet with senior Ministry of Education officials. Mr. Oden will also look at the programmes and plans of the ICEP's branch in Jordan. ICEP's membership groups 70 countries, including Jordan, who benefit from the programme's scholarship system.

Tourism team ends visit to Tunisia

TUNIS (Petra) — A Jordanian tourism and supply delegation Monday concluded a week-long working visit to Tunisia after holding talks with officials at the Tunisian Tourism Ministry on the scope of tourism cooperation between Jordan and Tunisia. This is an implementation of a tourism cooperation agreement signed between the two countries.

Court sentences hashish trafficker

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Waskin Yusuf to eight years in prison and fined him JD 3,000 for trafficking in hashish. The military governor Monday endorsed the sentence.

Ministry suggests ID check on inspectors

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development has requested employers and foreign workers not to give any information or present their work permits to any person unless they are sure of the identity of the person requesting the information. A responsible source at the ministry said that all labour inspectors throughout the country have been provided with special identification authorising them to enter any place which employs foreign labourers and to obtain all information pertaining to the Jordanian labour market.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday addresses with the planning committee for Ma'an Governorate (Petra photo)

Dakhqan issues cropping pattern for rainfed areas

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhqan Monday issued regulations about the application of cropping patterns in the rainfed and upland areas of the Kingdom.

The regulations provide for the formation of a technical committee at every agriculture department, to be chaired by director of agriculture, grouping a number of agricultural engineers and concerned people who will be responsible for distributing cropping pattern licences to farmers or their representatives. The committee will also be in charge of following up on the application of cropping patterns in the areas to be defined by the Agricultural Economy and Planning Department at the ministry.

Concerning tomatoes, the regulations state that the area shown in the licences is the maximum and should not be exceeded but eggplants and marrows will be governed by the provisions appearing in the licences.

Regarding potatoes and onions, the regulations said that areas de-

ined in the licences are the minimum areas and can be expanded upon the request of the farmer. Concerning grain and fodder crops, the regulations stress the need to inform and instruct farmers to plant all the cultivable land they own once a year with cereal or grain crops and that these crops should not be grown for more than four successive years.

Mr. Dakhqan said that the ministry fixes the prices of cereals taking into consideration the farmers' interests. The purchasing prices, however, will continue to be higher than prevailing market prices. He added, in order to encourage cereal production.

As for vegetables grown under plastic or in greenhouses, the cropping pattern will be applicable to cucumbers, which should not exceed the allowable area.

The regulations called on the committees to conduct field visits to check whether farmers are adhering to the cropping pattern regulations and to refer violators to the concerned authorities.

JNRCS to take part in Arab Red Cross, Crescent meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red-Crescent Society (JNRCS) will take part in the 7th conference of the Arab Red Crescent and Islamic Affairs (ARCISA) which will open in Nouakchott on March 14. Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, the JNRCS chairman and the chairman of the International Red Cross Standing Commission, will head the Jordanian delegation to the conference.

On the agenda of the three-day conference are the report of the Arab societies' general secretariat and the general budget, a report by the League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS) on the activities carried out by the North Africa and Middle East section as well as a report by the development and

executives committee of the Arab societies on the aid offered to a number of African states to help them overcome their drought problems.

The participants in the conference will evaluate the results of the fourth session of the LRCS general assembly held in Geneva during last year. Also to be discussed will be topics related to setting up a training centre in Istanbul, organising a seminar in Amman on international human law in addition to setting up regional relief stores in Istanbul. The conference will discuss the results of the meetings of the French-speaking African Red Crescent societies held recently in Benin as well as the aid from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB).

Committee organises events to celebrate Isra'a, Mi'raj

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Khayyat Monday presided over a meeting of the preparatory committee in charge of organising Jordan's celebrations for the Isra'a and Mi'raj, the Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey to Mecca and his ascension to heaven. The committee also discussed plans to mark the anniversary of Hittin battle and Al Aqsa day.

It was decided at the meeting to organise seminars and lectures to be delivered by a number of prominent figures in Jordan. Booklets and bulletins about Al Aqsa and pictures of the holy mosque will also be distributed. The committee also decided that the Friday sermon during the week of celebrations should provide information about Jerusalem and its status in Islamic faith.

School students throughout the Kingdom will have a special period for talking about the occasion with the aim of highlighting the lesson of Isra'a and Mi'raj and the importance of Jerusalem. In addition to the grand celebration, to be held at the Hussein mosque in Amman, there will be various celebrations at the governorate and district levels.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi.

Prince Hassan stresses need for public contributions in all development programmes

Crown Prince meets planning committee in Ma'an

MA'AN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called for involving all human resources in the economic and social development of the country and for holding a series of meetings between local councils and directors of the various economic activities and services with the aim of drawing up a clear perception of governorates' priority projects.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing the five-year development plan committee in Ma'an Governorate on Monday, stressed the necessity for developing the concept of supporting facilities to serve the neighbouring localities and cited Sahl Al Suwayyan project, the potash and phosphate projects as examples. He called for providing the infrastructure and services for developing areas with the aim of encouraging people to stay in their communities and to interact with such projects. The Crown Prince pointed out the benefits of employing a comprehensive concept which would include measures to upgrade the living conditions in areas neighbouring the projects. He also called for setting a sound order of priorities.

Conducting comprehensive surveys and drawing precise maps for land usage in cooperation with departments and concerned authorities will benefit Jordan's plans and provide a proper developmental climate, Prince Hassan said.

Prince Hassan paid tribute to the individual Jordanian citizen, saying that he is able to effectively contribute to the development, progress and stability of the country.

The Crown Prince also pointed out the need for taking some necessary measures to change some features in the Jordanian economy with the purpose of transforming it from a service oriented economy into a productive economy.

Referring to social conditions, Prince Hassan said that poverty affects more than 4 per cent of the governorate's population and that these people are receiving assistance from the Ministry of Social Development. This is a painful indicator, Prince Hassan said, because it demonstrates a failure in educating people.

Attending the meeting, which was held at 'Ail Vocational School, were Minister of Planning Abdullah Al Nsour, Youth Minister Hisham Sharari, Ma'an Governor Eid Al Qatameh, Aqaba Municipal Council Chairman Khalil Khreisat, committee members and chairman of local development councils.

Mr. Qatameh said that the gross investment volume for Ma'an Governorate's five-year plan is JD 848 million of which JD 145,463,000 has been allocated for the social and services sector, JD 320 million for infrastructure and JD 382.5 for commodity pro-

duction. These investments have been distributed among all areas in the governorate, Mr. Qatameh said.

The amount of JD 31 million has been allocated for projects at the governorate level and JD 46 million for Ma'an developmental area, JD 2,407,000 for Hussainieh area, JD 23 million for Shobak, JD 15 million for Wadi Mousa, JD 37 million for Aqaba, JD 17 million for Qawweirah, JD 16 million for Wadi Araba and JD 32 million for the south badia.

The plan, Mr. Qatameh said, aims to develop the agricultural sector, including animal wealth, surface and ground water resources and existing industries, tourist sites, reconstruction of the south badia region, developing and extending social and economic services and providing job opportunities, the conservation of nature and establishing and developing projects in cooperation with neighbouring Arab countries.

Speaking about the development constraints in the governorate, Mr. Qatameh said the limited human resources is one of the major constraints because the governorate's area of some 43,000 square kilometres is inhabited by about 93,000 people. Mr. Qatameh also mentioned the shortage of a trained and skilled labour force, the low rates of women's participation in the labour market and the concentration of local and foreign labour force in certain sectors as obstacles to development.

Arab office discusses boycott of Israel

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Commissioner General of the Arab Office for the Boycott of Israel Zuhair Aqel said that Israel has always been working to gain the support of its allies and to use their influence to counter the effects of Arab boycott.

Mr. Aqel, who was addressing the 54th conference of the Arab Office for the Boycott of Israel and which officially opened in Damascus on Monday, added that Israel seeks to expand its bilateral

commercial and economic agreements to get further concessions and facilities and to find markets for its products. The United States is the foremost supporter of Israel and it always extends aid and support to alleviate Israel's economic crises, Mr. Aqel said. The most important measure the U.S. has taken during the recent year, Mr. Aqel added, was to conclude a strategic cooperation agreement with Israel which included economic aspects serving the interests

of Israel. The agreement, he said, exempts Israel from settling American loans by considering them as gifts. It also means an increase in U.S. investments in Israel and lifting restrictions on the sale of Israeli arms to Third World countries, he continued.

Jordan's delegation to the meetings is headed by Mr. Mohammad Tawalbeh, the regional liaison officer, and it includes Mr. Salah Al Sayyed from the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, N.A. AMMAN BRANCH

The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. wishes to advise its customers that it intends to close its branch and cease its operations in Amman as of the close of business on April 3, 1986. Chase is pleased to announce, however, that it has reached an agreement with The Bank of Jordan Ltd., which is a banking institution known to us and whom we hold in esteem, to accept the transfer of your account(s) under the same terms and conditions currently in effect with Chase.

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France launches campaign to free hostages

(Continued from page 1)

assassination squad in a Paris prison.

Beirut's leading independent An Nahar daily said the plan was carried from Paris by Razah Raad, a Lebanese-born heart specialist, the only mediator the kidnappers say they will meet.

But Dr. Raad, who arrived in Damascus from Paris on Sunday, had said he carried no specific proposals from the French government to the kidnappers.

"There is a good Syrian mediation and we are here to follow up," Dr. Raad told reporters in Damascus.

France's roving Middle East ambassador, Henri Servant, met on Monday with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus while Serge Boidevaix, deputy secretary-general of France's Foreign Ministry, held talks with Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Beirut.

The official Syrian Arab news Agency (SANA) said Mr. Servant delivered a message from French President Francois Mitterrand to Mr. Assad.

SANA did not spell out its contents. But knowledgeable observers in Damascus said Mr. Mitterrand appealed for an intensification of efforts to free the hostages.

"We're trying all we can to save our people and the Syrians are very cooperative and helpful," a French diplomatic source told AP in Damascus. He declined to elaborate.

"This is a sensitive issue," he said. "We cannot deal with it in the media."

Mr. Boidevaix said after a one-hour meeting with Mr. Karami that their talks focused on finding "a way to overcome the difficulties we are facing."

Asked whether his and Mr. Servant's mission were coordinated with Dr. Raad's, Mr. Boidevaix said: "These are two missions at two different levels."

Mr. Karami told reporters the French emissary "conveyed France's worries about the French kidnappings in Lebanon."

"We have repeatedly rejected these practices and made all possible contacts to free the hostages. We shall persist in this course because we can't see any benefit for our cause or objectives from the kidnappings," Mr. Karami added.

Mr. Boidevaix later met Lebanese Parliament Speaker Hussein Husseini, a Shi'ite, and Fuad Al Turk, the Foreign Ministry under-secretary. The envoy declined to disclose details of the meetings.

Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuri

Souslikov also met with Mr. Turk. Asked about his views on the kidnappings, Mr. Souslikov said: "This is very regrettable. The French government should redouble its efforts to free those people."

It was the first Soviet comment in Lebanon on the abduction of four French television crewmen in Beirut Saturday. Their abduction raised the number of kidnapped Frenchmen to eight.

An anonymous caller said in Beirut on Sunday that Islamic Jihad was responsible for seizing the French television crew here at gunpoint on Saturday.

The caller warned France, which faces parliamentary elections in five days, that it had one week to "recover" two dissident Iraqis expelled from France and returned to Baghdad last month.

Officials in Paris said on Sunday the French ambassador in Baghdad had seen the two Iraqis and was able "to satisfy himself they were in good health."

Islamic Jihad has linked the fate of the French hostages to French support for Iraq in its war with Iran. It has also demanded the release of five Lebanese jailed in France for a bid to kill former Iranian Premier Shapour Bakhtiar in 1980.

Most remains of shuttle crew recovered

(Continued from page 1)

they were upset by the discovery and had hoped that they could begin to put the tragedy behind them.

The space agency also said salvage crews had recovered a 1,900-kilogramme piece of the left solid rocket booster from the ocean floor and brought it to Cape Canaveral.

A presidential commission looking for the cause of the explosion has focused on the Challenger's right booster rocket.

The shuttle was located by the USS Preserver, part of a flotilla searching the Atlantic Ocean for parts of the \$1.5 billion spaceplane.

Reuters said sources had disclosed earlier that salvage crews had fished up astronauts' personal effects from the surface of the Atlantic, including a flight helmet and lesson materials Ms. McAuliffe was to have used in a teacher-in-space project.

Those finds had led experts to

conclude the compartment had either been ruptured during the mid-air explosion or on impact after its 16-kilometre free fall to the Atlantic.

The three-level, pressurised crew module was located in the nose of the spaceship.

At lift-off, commander Scobee and pilot Smith were seated in the upper flight deck, with Ms. Resnik and Onizuka sitting directly behind them. McNair, Jarvis and Ms. McAuliffe, were on the middeck.

Jordan Times

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What's the message?

THE two-day symposium sponsored here by the Arab Thought Forum last week did well to point out that the utilisation rate of the two Arab satellite systems is well below expectations, as many Arab countries either do not belong to the Arab satellite organisation or belong but do not make use of the satellites' facilities. The situation, therefore, is that the Arab World can boast about two sophisticated and shiny satellites in space that we do not make full use of. This is probably a short-term problem. In time, the Arab countries will surely make more use of the Arab satellite facilities.

We are more concerned, however, by the quality of the material being sent over the Arab satellite network, rather than only the quantity. It is well and fine to have the Arab World linked via sophisticated telecommunications systems. It would be even better, though, to make sure that such advanced technological systems have a role to play in transforming and advancing the social, cultural and political development of the Arab people. It would be a catastrophe if an Arab World that suddenly found itself with surplus cash in the fourth quarter of the 20th Century used that cash to install technology that simply perpetuated the systems that had defined the Arab World in the third quarter of the 20th Century.

Is it a great feat to be able to pick up the telephone and talk with a citizen in any other Arab country, simply at the touch of a button or the turn of a dial? It is a convenience, to be sure. But is it an advance for our societies? For what have we used our complex new technology? Is the young Arab secondary school student better off today than he or she was a quarter of a century ago? Is the intellectual and moral quality of our youth improving, or regressing? Do the satellites and the ground stations and the tele machines create a younger generation that thinks more, or better, or more freely, or more imaginatively, or more productively, or more creatively, than its predecessors? Is the quality of news that Arab countries exchange with one another over the new technology serving the purpose of enlightening and informing the Arab citizen, to allow him/her better to play the role of an educated citizen in a developing society? Is it supposed to?

These may be difficult questions. We feel they are the kinds of questions that must be answered these days, if the concept of an Arab civilisation that acquires more and more Western technology is to sustain itself in the future, as it did so gloriously in the past, as a concept with a message for its own people, and the entire world beyond.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Arab solidarity

THE parliamentary meetings opening Monday in Amman attract Arab people's attention and are looked on as a means for consolidating Arab stands and action. The meetings are designed to improve inter-Arab cooperation in parliamentary, political, cultural, economic affairs, and therefore the delegates are expected to come up with something constructive in helping bolster the Arab Nation's joint action. We welcome the parliamentarians in Jordan and wish their conference success, and we hope that their discussions will tackle the different challenges and foil all plots directed against this steadfast nation. We hope that the meetings will come up with something helpful for the Arab people under Israeli rule and will foil the conspiracies of the enemies of the Arab Nation. The plight of the Arab brothers under Israeli rule requires special attention by the Arab parliamentarians in view of the inhuman practices being exercised against them by the Israelis, and we hope that they will find means of extending meaningful help to Iraq which is now involved in a war in defence of the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: American arms

A statement by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres about Israel's intention to oppose any U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia prompts us to ask again whether the American policies are worked out in Washington or Tel Aviv. The Peres statement came only days after President Reagan announced to the American Jews that Washington will never allow the Arabs to have the upper hand, and that Israel will maintain its military superiority over the Arab countries. Israel is pressuring the United States into keeping the Arabs weak by refraining from selling them any weapons with which to defend themselves against Israel's attacks. This attitude on the part of the United States towards a friendly state like Saudi Arabia is reminiscent of its dealings with Jordan despite the U.S. president's former pledges to sell the arms. Israel's success in formulating and shaping American policies in favour of Tel Aviv's interests casts doubts upon Washington's credibility, and as a result, the United States becomes unable to act freely and honour its commitments. The United States cannot go on being biased towards Israel and at the same time ask us to believe its own intentions of acting as a mediator for peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: The permanent absentee

THERE is a strong link between the deteriorating situation in the Arab World and the lack of democratic rule inside the Arab countries. It is regrettable to see the Arab citizens unable to exercise democracy in the full sense of the word and it is pitiable to see the citizens in the Arab Nation unable to participate meaningfully in all that is good and beneficial, or acting as a partner in the process of bringing about stability and progress. We remember this sorrowful situation as we see parliamentarians from 14 Arab countries meeting in Amman to discuss Arab issues. These parliamentarians have the power to do something for their countries and nation and have the authority to try to forge a unity among Arab countries, one that really enjoys democracy. These parliamentarians are now facing a strong challenge with the presence of numerous dangers that threaten the Arab countries in the East and the West. The delegates have to find a means for confronting such dangers and a course of action for salvation.

Mubarak delivers apparent ultimatum to premier

By John Rogers
 Reuter

CAIRO — President Hosni Mubarak appears to have given Prime Minister Ali Lotfi one last chance to come up with policies to haul Egypt's economy out of a deepening crisis.

In a televised speech to parliament, two weeks after a revolt by security police, Mubarak told the cabinet to speed up its work and produce "strong, practical and radical" measures to improve the nation's economic performance.

Western diplomats said it amounted to an ultimatum to Lotfi, whose six months in office has

produced few initiatives and has been scarred by body-blows to Egypt's dollar earnings.

Lotfi was appointed to produce a new economic package, one diplomat said. "He has not yet done so and his future depends on what he comes up with. If he does not produce, his position must be precarious."

Apert from his orders to the economist premier, Mubarak's speech on March 8 yielded few new ideas on how Egypt can redress its balance of payments and foreign trade, in the face of falling hard currency earnings and a foreign debt of more than \$30 billion.

But he said healing the eco-

nomy and helping the poor was a top national priority indicating, he viewed poverty as an underlying cause of the looting and arson last month by 17,000 low-paid police conscripts which caused at least 107 deaths and left some Cairo hotels in ruins.

He said he had ordered improved living conditions for the security force of nearly 300,000 men — though full disclosure of what sparked the mutiny would have to await results of a continuing probe by state investigators.

Without directly linking his demand for swift economic action to the riots, Mubarak urged the government to increase revenue.

help private business, modernise state-run industries, boost tourism, cut red tape and encourage food production.

To garner hard currency, he urged Egyptians to take vacations at home this year instead of travelling abroad.

He called for government exchange rate policies that will encourage Egyptians working overseas to send money home through official channels, rather than the black-market.

Their transfers, more than \$3.5 billion a year, are the country's biggest source of foreign exchange, but are on the decline.

Another earner in trouble is oil, whose export price has plunged,

slashing revenue by \$700 million this fiscal year and a forecast \$1.2 billion next year.

Tourism, already reeling from cancelled vacations after Middle East violence late last year, has slumped 40 per cent since the police revolt. Suez Canal revenue is stagnant.

Diplomats detect one possible silver lining. They say the dramatic fall in oil prices, by creating a crisis atmosphere, may make it easier for Lotfi to implement an austerity package without sparking public anger.

Cabinets have tried for years to introduce economic changes gradually, rather than abruptly, for fear of riots such as those which

broke out in 1977 when bread prices were raised.

Lotfi, sidelined for a month this year by a slipped disc, has not disclosed what his economic package may contain.

Among other measures, Western economists want to see Egypt raise food, fuel and electricity prices and cut state subsidies — though Mubarak has ordered that the poor must not be harmed by whatever new policies the government does decide.

"The oil-price decline could provide a good opportunity for tough action," a diplomat said. "People may not like what Lotfi deals out but may understand that he has to do it."

Oil drop seen greater threat to stability than Gulf war

By Christopher Hanson
 Reuter

WASHINGTON — Iran's recent attacks against Iraq in the Gulf war are worrying U.S. officials, but they say unrest sown by a huge fall in world oil prices could pose a far greater long-term threat to Middle East stability.

Washington has long feared that an Iranian military breakthrough in the war could send shock waves through the Middle East, spreading Tehran's militantly anti-American brand of Islam throughout the Gulf.

But despite recent Iranian offensives which captured Faw peninsula at the head of the Gulf near Kuwait and thrust into Iraqi Kurdistan further north, U.S. officials who follow the war believe it remains stalemated, with no end in sight.

"Militarily, the situation is going nowhere — we have no indication the Iranians are going anywhere," said one.

The officials, who spoke on the condition they not be named, were more concerned about the economic repercussions for the Middle East of the price of oil — which has plummeted from \$31 a barrel in November to about \$12 this week.

Shireen Hunter, a Georgetown University Middle East specialist who has just returned from the Gulf states, said at a news briefing on March 4: "The economic situation in the whole region is becoming quite alarming."

She said the region had become economically interdependent, so the oil price drop had hit both major oil producers like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and other countries such as Egypt, a key U.S. ally and major aid recipient.

Declining oil revenues had caused aid from richer to poorer Arab nations to drop substantially, fostering discontent.

Egypt's economic problems and social unrest have Washington particularly worried.

The officials said the recent mutiny by Egyptian police, put down by the army, was due to discontent stemming largely from a flagging Egyptian economy weakened by the oil price drop.

Economic turmoil has strengthened both Islamic and leftist militants in Egypt and throughout the Middle East, they said.

Tens of thousands of Egyptian guest workers were being sent home from oil-rich Arab nations as employment and bankruptcies soared, adding to the economic pressure on Egypt, where the tou-

rist trade was off substantially and Suez Canal revenues down.

U.S. diplomats worry that a deteriorating economy could weaken Saudi Arabia, an important U.S. friend in the region, and Jordan, which Washington sees as key to any Arab-Israeli settlement.

A former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Robert Neumann, just back from the Middle East where he met high officials in moderate Arab countries, told reporters this week it was his impression that regional economic problems had brought on "a crisis of decision-making — a kind of paralysis."

Hunter said that, for the West, the price of cheaper oil could be a surge in Middle East militancy which Iran would seek to exploit.

A Reagan administration Middle East expert concurred, telling Reuters: "If you have a system that does not appear successful, the militant Islamic alternative is going to seem attractive."

Iran could thus make inroads in the region even if it failed to break the Gulf war impasse.

The officials said Iraq's morale had been damaged and its forces badly bloodied in the recent Faw fighting, which appeared to have claimed up to 10,000 Iraqi casualties as Iran reinforced a bridgehead with some 30,000 troops.

They said Iraq's failure to exploit a four-to-one advantage in warplanes, tanks and other military hardware was inexplicable and worrying, but they disputed reports from the Middle East that the war had reached a major turning point.

One official said he expected to see the two opposing armies facing each other in about the same positions a year from now.

Georgetown University analyst Frederick Axelrod, just back from the Middle East, said Iraq might be able to mount an encircling movement and destroy Iranian forces in Faw within eight weeks, when the ground will have dried out enough to allow Baghdad to exploit its advantage in tanks.

The Pentagon official said Iran's thrust into Iraqi Kurdistan was without military significance because the terrain was too difficult for a deep thrust.

Axelrod said one scenario for an end to the war was a political collapse in Iraq, prompted by military setbacks.

But Hunter said it was important not to under-estimate Iraqi staying power.

Moderate Gulf Arab states, fearful of an Iranian victory, have been helping Iraq's war effort.

Namibian independence still appears elusive

By Arlik Bachar
 Reuter

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa) — South Africa's latest offer on Namibia stands little chance of getting off the ground and the territory Pretoria has ruled for years in defiance of the world may still face a long road to independence, political analysts say.

President P.W. Botha announced last Tuesday that South Africa was prepared to start implementing a 1978 United Nations independence plan for Namibia on August 1.

But he announced no breakthrough on the major stumbling block — Pretoria's long-standing demand that some 25,000 Cuban troops must first pull out of Namibia's neighbour, Angola.

Angola swiftly rejected Botha's proposal. The official news agency ANGOP said the presence of the Cuban troops concerned only the Angolan and Cuban authorities and could not be used as a condition for granting freedom to Namibia.

"Despite Botha's statement, prospects for independence are still very remote," said Cape Town University political science professor Robert Schrire, who has followed the Namibian question closely.

He said Pretoria, under strong domestic and international pressure to leave this vast desert reg-

ion which it has ruled since 1917, was "creating an illusion of movement towards independence".

Botha's proposal concerned Security Council resolution 435 which calls for a truce between South African forces in Namibia and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), which have been engaged in a stalemated guerrilla war for 20 years.

The ceasefire should be followed by a South African withdrawal and the arrival of international forces to supervise general elections in the former German colony.

Although the blueprint has been accepted by all parties, attempts at implementation have foundered on Pretoria's insistence, backed by the United States, that the Cuban troops leave Angola first.

Many political and military experts believe the foreign troops are vital to the survival of Luanda's Marxist government in a 10-year-old civil war against the UNITA guerrilla movement.

Schrire said: "Angola's MPLA government cannot survive without outside help, and as long as South Africa is adamant on the linkage between the two issues, it will be impossible for Namibia to gain independence."

The Angolan side of the equation has also been complicated by a recent Washington agreement to provide military aid to the UNITA rebels, political analysts say.



Aquino embarks on the 'yellow revolution'

Mrs. Cory Aquino can count on massive public support as she begins to reform the government of the Philippines, but Chris Sherwell points out that the problems the country faces will last a lot longer than the euphoria.

MANILA — After a tumultuous two-month election campaign and a heart-stopping 18-day crisis over the result, Mrs. Corason Aquino has been swept victoriously into the presidency of the Philippines on an unprecedented tide of popular support.

Now begins the promised first 100 days of "yellow revolution" — a play on her campaign colour — and the world is watching to see if she can successfully consolidate her position, restart the wheels of government and promote political reconciliation.

By any standards there seemed to be a good start on the first day of the new administration. Mr. Juan Ponce Enrile, the powerful Defence Minister who broke away from the Marcos government and hastened its downfall, reported that the military was now completely behind Mrs. Aquino and fighting had ended. But there was some embarrassment that the sudden departure of Mr. Marcos and his family had led to disorder and looting by crowds who stormed into Malacanang, the presidential palace.

The military also reported attempts by Marcos business associates to spirit money abroad and discoveries of arms caches and crates of currency. Although much of the tension gave way to elation at Marcos's departure, the situation is still delicate.

In a crucial development, Mrs. Aquino herself announced that a dozen former cabinet ministers in the Marcos government had agreed to help with an orderly transition. They had, in turn, asked provincial governors and town mayors to co-operate with the new government, and had said ruling party members, who form a majority in the National Assembly, were also ready to co-operate.

Given the extraordinary circumstances in which she took office, Mrs. Aquino is appealing to Filipinos to be patient as she sets about her mammoth task. They and the rest of the world are meanwhile marveling at the ousting of Mr. Marcos through their own power. Their newfound confidence, their rediscovery of a lost pride and self-respect, offer a potent resource for Mrs. Aquino to tap.

To judge by her first presidential press conference, Mrs. Aquino is likely to stick closely to commitments made in her election campaign. Though they may take longer to implement than originally hoped, her first political moves will include a restoration of habeas corpus, the freeing of political detainees and a curb on presidential detention powers.

Her promise of a freer press is already being met. The boycott of pro-Marcos newspapers is off, and television stations which went off the air are starting to broadcast again. The revised Office of Media Affairs, through which Mr. Marcos managed the media, will not be revived.

Although Mrs. Aquino says she is "magnanimous in victory" — she has even hinted that Mr. Marcos might eventually return to the Philippines — it is clear that there is still some serious unfinished business.

A presidential commission on "good government" is to investigate the possibility of recovering the "hidden wealth" salted away abroad by Mr. Marcos and his associates. The commission will also study what should happen to the property they left behind.

This is in keeping with Mr. Aquino's passionate pre-election promise to eliminate graft and corruption: "I shall immediately begin the process of flushing clear the putrid stable of bureaucratic corruption and cronyism, and of recovering the people's money accumulated in private accounts built up by thievery. The axe will be made to fall where it must."

Mrs. Aquino plans to work in the Presidential Palace, but not to live there. She said she would lead by example: "It is not fitting for the leader of an impoverished nation to live in extravagance."

There are also bound to be changes within the civil service, judiciary and military. Gen. Fidel Ramos, newly-appointed as chief of staff following the success of the audacious move he and Mr. Enrile made against Mr. Marcos, announced a long list of senior appointments in the air force, navy, marines, coast guard and intelligence services.

Beyond this, Mrs. Aquino wants the National Assembly to call a constitutional convention as soon as possible. "It is evident," she said before the election, "that a permanent solution to many of our political problems requires radical changes in the constitution."

She wishes to see a break-up in the concentration of executive power previously wielded by Mr. Marcos, new safeguards against the abuse of power and a system to ensure executive answerability. She has threatened to use the hated presidential decree-making power to speed this process, but that may prove unnecessary in the current mood.

One of Mrs. Aquino's most controversial proposals is to seek an immediate cease-fire with guerrillas of the Communist-inspired New People's Army "to redress the legitimate grievances of those who have resorted to armed struggle."

In particular, she has proposed an amnesty for guerrillas willing to lay down their arms, pledge allegiance to the state and forswear the use of violence. Though accused of being naive, she believes that a credible government can secure some credible surrenders, and she could well woo those who are not hard-core Communist Party sympathisers.

Even if this does not happen, Mrs. Aquino has no doubts about the need to use the power of the state to fight any force seeking to overthrow democratic government. To this end, Gen. Ramos reaffirmed his commitment, which Mrs. Aquino shares, to strengthen the morale of the Philippine military and to restore its discipline and professionalism.

Such reforms are certain to help combat the estimated 16,000 guerrilla insurgents, and they, in turn, cannot fail to draw lessons from the past three months' events. Indeed, it seems unlikely that the

left will be strengthened by these developments, given its boycott of the election and the proven success of Mrs. Aquino's non-violent line.

Another factor in her favour is the natural distaste of a Catholic, Malay people for violent communist revolution. Against her, however, are the uncertainties of the present transition, especially at grassroots levels where some "People's Committees" are already said to have sprung up.

Then there is the country's relentlessly deteriorating economy. The Philippines in 1986 faces its third successive year of contraction, partly as a result of the international recession but chiefly because of a loss of international and domestic confidence in the role of Mr. Marcos.

In the 1960s, the Philippines enjoyed the rapid rates of growth in line with those seen all over South-east Asia. But the country has since become, in Mrs. Aquino's words, "a basket case."

The assassination in 1983 of her husband, Ninoy Aquino, provoked such a heavy capital flight that the government declared a moratorium on repayments of its \$25.6 billion debt and sought a rescheduling with its commercial and official creditors under the guidance of the International Monetary Fund.



It took about two years to negotiate that agreement, which involved tough austerity measures and restructuring the economy. A key aspect was the dismantling of the sugar and coconut monopolies.

By late last year the bitter medicine appeared to be working and the inflation rate fell rapidly from about 16 per cent to 5 per cent. But an explosion in the money supply, which some suspect is related to the discredited election, has raised questions as to whether the target agreed with the IMF can still be met.

Negotiations with the fund, due to start late in February, were postponed and there is no date for a resumption.

To deal with the economic problems, Mrs. Aquino has appointed Mr. Jaime Ongpin, head of Benguet Corporation, one of the country's biggest mining concerns, as Finance Minister. One of her closest advisers, he is widely respected at home and abroad. Mrs. Aquino also decided to re-appoint Mr. Jose Fernandez as governor of the Central Bank.

While the international banks are likely to join foreign governments in welcoming Mrs. Aqu-

ino's success, they are unclear about her stated commitment to negotiate better terms for the repayment of the country's external debt. The IMF and the World Bank are also likely to be pleased with the change.

Mrs. Aquino's general disposition on the economy is clear: the private sector is the engine of recovery and her task is to offer an enhanced environment for business initiative and investment. Government's own role will be reduced. It will offer "a judicious mixture of protection and support," she has said, and will not compete directly with private business.

On specifics, Mrs. Aquino has promised less oppressive strike laws for workers, some relaxation on the tax front for businesses and help for farmers. She has also pledged to dismantle the sugar and coconut monopolies controlled by Mr. Roberto Benedicto and Mr. Eduardo Cojuangco, both Marcos business associates.

More generally, Mrs. Aquino says her first concern and priority is to deal with the poverty, unemployment and underemployment which afflict up to three-quarters of the 54 million population. She will be hoping that with Mr. Marcos out of the way, foreign governments and banks will help the economic recovery which she says she so desperately wants.

This includes the U.S. government, which is enormously relieved that the crisis was resolved peacefully with a result which Washington can live with. Throughout the affair its concern, as President Ronald Reagan admitted at the worst conceivable moment, has been to protect its strategic air and naval bases at Clark Field and Subic Bay. These bases are critical to regional security, and after taking office Mrs. Aquino repeated her standard position on them: She will respect the Philippine-U.S. agreement until it expires in 1991 and keep her options open thereafter. She has previously promised a process of consultation on the matter, with the U.S., friendly South-east Asian neighbours and the Filipino people.

The singular achievement of Mrs. Aquino and the Filipino people in dislodging Mr. Marcos has left the Philippines' five partners in the Association of South East Asian Nations immensely relieved and brought a flood of congratulations from Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Japan.

As well as the simple ceremony held on February 25, it is possible that Mrs. Aquino may soon be more formally proclaimed president by the National Assembly and installed in a manner befitting her achievement. That would be an occasion everyone would want to attend as a mark of respect.

But Mrs. Aquino remains sober about what she has done. The dramatic events in the Philippines, ending 20 years of autocratic Marcos rule, were achieved by the Filipino people, she says. Asked whether the fact that she was the widow of Mr. Marcos's greatest opponent was more important than her own talent, she replied tactfully but accurately: "I guess it was because I was the widow of Ninoy. But it was also because I am Cory Aquino." — Financial Times news feature.

Jordanian women: Some gains despite society's stereotyping

By Najwa Najjar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — When a baby is born, it is unaware of which sex it belongs to, however, he or she soon finds out, as society presents the "models" it has established for him or her to follow. In "Little Girls," Elena Gianinio Belotti explained a male is brought up with the right to realise his potential to the utmost. He is expected to be an individual and he is valued for what he will be. He is encouraged to be aggressive, active, curious, and independent.

The female, on the other hand, is usually taught to be calm, passive, undemanding and to be complying with her family demands without difficulty. She, in the future will be valued for what she will become, said Belotti.

These characteristics have become firmly implanted in society. Throughout the child's life they formulate the decisions that he or she takes. The relationship between access to education, the careers chosen by females, and the attitudes pertaining to the role of a woman are examples of female tendencies, whether consciously or unconsciously, to fulfill the stereotyped roles designated for them by society.

Opportunities for females in education have considerably advanced since nearly all Arab states have enacted laws and decrees stating that educational opportunities should be given equally to both sexes. Female enrollment in Jordanian schools at the primary level is almost equal to that of males, said Mr. Munther Masri, director general of the Vocational Training Cooperation. However, at further education levels, female presence decreases. Mr. Masri

noted that on the secondary level, the enrollment of females is less than in the primary level, and the percentage of girls is consistently less than that of boys. While females make up 45 per cent of the total registration in primary school cycles, they make up 41 per cent in preparatory school cycles, and only 38 per cent in the secondary cycles, he said.

Although the government supports the principle of increased and equal opportunities for the education of females, there are still basic factors which operate against this objective. Edith A.S. Hanania gave the following reasons for the low attendance of girls in elementary schools in her study "Access of Arab Women to Higher Education":

— Traditional attitudes, beliefs, and practices related to the role and place of a female in society such as a woman's place in the home, education exposes women to corrupting influences, women are not equal to men in ability, and should get married at an early age.

— Unavailability of educational facilities. This applies in particular to rural and distant areas.

— Economic reasons, applying to large, low-income families which cannot afford additional educational expenses, and where the girls' help is needed at home, in the field, or as a wage earner.

These factors are especially predominant in rural areas. However, urban females have not escaped facing similar conditions.

Despite efforts to eradicate illiteracy in Jordan, there remains a high rate of illiteracy among both rural and urban females. 1985 Ministry of Labour and Social Development estimates show 28.25 per cent (352,000 citizens) to be illiterate, 113,000 are males, and 239,000 are females. This



More Jordanian women attend community colleges' courses than universities.

ratio is almost double in the rural areas.

Illiteracy, the lack of proper training and the absence of educational qualifications have forced the majority of women to join the labour market in low status jobs or work in agriculture, stated Irene Loring and Julinda Abu Nasr in their "Review of the Young Arab Women's Situation". They added that these women usually join the labour market only because of pressing economic needs.

Nevertheless, the number of women who have a chance to obtain a higher educational degree is increasing. Research and interviews indicated that these women have a tendency to choose

careers which are extensions society expects them to fulfill.

The ratio of female enrollment in higher education continued to increase between 1975-80. Female enrollment at universities reached its peak in 1980 at 39.99 per cent. In 1983-84 female enrollment in Jordanian universities reached 39.2 per cent. The concentration of degrees were in pharmacy (87.1 per cent), education (71 per cent) and humanities (49.4 per cent). The least ratio was in engineering and technology where it did not exceed 18.1 per cent.

More females tend to enroll in community colleges than universities. Female registration re-

ached its peak in community colleges in 1985 at 48.21 per cent. Females in community colleges are concentrated mostly in education, business (especially secretarial work), and paramedical; and least in engineering and hotel studies, according to Mr. Masri.

The Economic Commission on West Asia (ECWA) found that in 1979 most young women in the region who had profited from educational and training facilities worked in the services sector, mostly in governmental institutions as secretaries, clerks, and teachers. The Labour Force Survey carried in Jordan in 1975 confirmed the findings of the ECWA applied to Jordan as well.

The survey showed that the female workers are concentrated in the administration and services sector, particularly in teaching. The ratio of female teachers up to the secondary level reached 53 per cent. There was also a high ratio of females in the fields of health, clerical and secretarial work.

Females in both universities and community colleges are trained for work often described as "caring" work. This means work that promotes the welfare of others rather than the welfare or development of the worker herself. Certain work identities such as secretary, nurse, and teacher make a woman follow directly from her domestic role. For example a secretary often becomes an office wife with duties such as making coffee and buying presents, duties not included in her contract, noted Belotti.

Female numbers have gradually increased in scientific specialisations, but this does not change the trends of preferences (bias towards humanities and social sciences).

This is attributed to the shorter time needed for education in these areas as compared with medicine or engineering according to Mrs. Asma Khader, a lawyer in private practice who has done extensive work on women affairs.

A woman who wants to study medicine will take into consideration that she will be studying for a minimum of seven years, meaning she will be approximately 25 when she finishes, a bit old by society's standards for marriage, she said. Mrs. Khader also said that society considers humanities to be easier, and therefore more appropriate for a woman to study since "her brain is considered to be less than a male's."

British humour lands on Amman

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — "My Giddy Aunt," a two-act comedy-thriller produced by the famous British comedian turned-producer Derek Nimmo promises theatre connoisseurs here a spectacular mise-en-scene and a witty show spiced with suspense and mystery. The play, which opens at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel playhouse on Wednesday, is written by Ray Cooney and John Chapman, considered by drama critics as Britain's most successful farce writers of their generation.

The five-performance event, which marks the opening of the dinner/theatre season in Amman, is organised by the Intercontinental Hotel in cooperation with British Airways. The eight-member cast are the British Airways Touring Theatre Group, which includes some of Britain's top actors and actresses. Some of them well-known to Jordanian television and film audience.

The British Airways Theatre Group — although not the same cast — has staged four successful plays at the hotel over the past

three years, including "There's a Girl in my Soup" and "How the Other Half Loves."

In a press conference held Monday to introduce the cast and technical crew of "My Giddy Aunt," Intercontinental Manager Gabriel Khawan said that the touring theatre's previous productions staged in Amman introduced some prominent performances and leading artists to the Jordanians. A larger awareness for still and performing arts has developed in Jordan during the past 10 years, he added.

Introducing his production Nimmo said: "A lot of hilarity is on the way." "My Giddy Aunt" has been running in London's West End theatre district for the past two years, drawing large audiences.

The play will premiere in Amman before the group launches a tour of nine Arab and Asian countries, Nimmo said. The touring theatre has found an excellent theatre audience in Amman, he added.

Starring in "My Giddy Aunt" is one of Britain's best loved actresses, Peggy Mount. Mount is a seasoned actress who appeared in numerous films, and television

series, such as "You're Only Young Twice," as well as modern and classical theatre plays and pantomimes. Co-starring with Mount is Peter Sallis, who is well known to British television viewers and who has participated in numerous plays which were staged at the Arts Theatre in London and at New York's Broadway. Sallis has also written plays for radio and an adaptation of Boucicault for the Chisester festival.

Other members of the cast, who have also appeared in a number of television series, films and plays, include Shayur Mehta, Renu Setna, Robin Kermode, Peter Denyer and Karan David.

Mehta played the crown prince in the long-running production of "The King and I" and took an important role in the film "High Road to China," starring Tom Selik and Brian Blessed. He also appeared in the block-busting television series "The Par Pavilions," which was screened on Jordan Television recently and which featured Ben Cross, Omar Sharif, Christopher Lee, and Sir John Gielgud. Mehta also serves deputy stage manager of "My Giddy Aunt."

Setna, a professional actor since 1963, has appeared in over 200 television performances including such award-winning series as "I Claudius" and "Glittering Prizes." Plays that featured Setna include "Far East" and the high point of his career "Trial Run" — a play commissioned by the Oxford Playhouse Theatre especially for him. His most recent film appearance was in "Shout at the Devil," starring Roger Moore and Lee Marvin.

Kermode trained as an actor at the Central School of Speech and



Participants in Monday's press conference to introduce a two-act comedy-thriller "My Giddy Aunt" are from right to left: Ms. Peggy Mount, Mr. Derek Nimmo, Mr. Gabriel Khawan and Mr. Peter Sallis.

Drama, and has taken part in various television and theatre shows.

Denyer, a reputed director and actor, has taken part in many plays such as "No Sex Please, We're British" and "Whose Life is it Anyway." He has also written and adapted many shows, which also he directed, such as "Aladdin" and "Cinderella."

David has been in show business at an early age. She appeared in television series such as "Cliff Richard Shows," "Cilla," "Ang-

els," and "Crossroads." Her film credits include "Virgin Soldiers," "The House of Whipcord" and "Are you being Served."

"My Giddy Aunt's" technical crew are Michael Pavelka (scenery and costumes), Allan Miller Bunford (technical consultant and production manager), Henry Tomlinson (company stage manager), and John Hayes (tour manager). The play will be on show from Wednesday throughout Sunday.



Colourful feelings, joys

AMMAN (J.T.) — "All my life I liked to paint. In my school days, painting was my favourite course." Houria Laraki will hold her first painting exhibition Wednesday at the Royal Cultural Centre.

"I was living in Fez, and in that Moroccan city there was no institute of fine arts so I used to go every week to Casablanca to take painting lessons."

Time passed and Houria who, married Abdel Latif Laraki, the Moroccan ambassador to Jordan, accompanied her husband to Egypt where he was ambassador from 1971 to 1979.

Her Egyptian experience and the contact with "great painters" there, were a great asset to her artistic experience. Later, in Jordan, her talent exploded when she met the pioneer of the Jordanian painting.

Princess Fakhreissa Zeid.

"She took me to her school. She encouraged me to create, to explore deep inside of me the expressions of my moods. I owe her my work."

So a painter was born, with an explosion of colours and a personal style rich of creativity. "I paint for myself. What you see are my personal feelings drawn on canvas," says Houria.

Fifty paintings, fruit of two years of work are Houria Laraki's joys and pains, her trust and her fears.

On Houria, Princess Fakhreissa Zeid says:

"What an explosion of this soul in the unknown world of beauty and mystery Houria shows us the depth of her great talent in all her different creations. We salute here a very great painter."

West Europe's Eureka research drive set for expansion

By Paul Mylrea
Reuter

LUXEMBOURG — Western Europe's Eureka high-technology drive, proposed by France last year in a blaze of publicity, is set for expansion, according to officials involved in the scheme.

They say governments and industrialists are preparing to bid for a new list of projects to be included in the research programme, which is designed to counter U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) with a European civilian research drive.

The plan was first met with scepticism by industrialists, but government officials in several of the 18 participating nations questioned by Reuters said the initial 26 official Eureka projects have now met with a good response from firms.

Several organisational problems also appear to have been sorted out, but the question of who will actually fund Eureka projects has still to be fully resolved.

Eureka, designed to channel Europe's research skills into producing marketable high-technology goods to rival the U.S. and Japan, could be expanded again this month, officials say.

France's Eureka coordinator Yves Sillard said in February that Paris is preparing 17 new projects and called for the total number to be boosted to 50 by the end of this year.

West German and British officials say another 25 projects will be considered by senior officials from the 18 nations — all 12 EC states plus Finland, Turkey, Sweden, Norway, Austria and Switzerland — at a meeting in London on March 12 and 13.

For a project to win the Eureka label it must involve cooperation between at least two Western European nations, be open for others to join and involve high technology research.

The field is wide, including robotics, lasers, high-speed computers and biotechnology, and the 26 projects already included show the diversity of Western Europe's research skills.

Seeing robots, compact high-powered computers, atmospheric pollution control schemes and computer-networks to link research scientists in the group were among the projects approved by the first Eureka conference in Paris last year.

Earlier this year, senior officials in London added another 16 projects, including automated production of custom-made computer chips, mobile bomb-disposal robots, lasers for toxic waste disposal and ceramics for car engines.

Larger nations dominate, with France involved in 21, West Germany in nine and Britain in five of the 26 projects.

But less advanced nations are also active, with Luxembourg creating a studio for 3-D television graphics and Spain helping develop a diagnostic kit for sexually-transmitted diseases.

Countries outside the EC have

also answered the Eureka invitation. Turkey has shown interest in four of the original projects and Austria has already joined in three.

The list of projects seeking a Eureka label is also wide. Spain wants partner for three biomedical research projects and one on polymer extraction in the petrochemical industry. In Austria, the robot firm IGM is talking to France's Alstom Atlantique on measuring instruments for industrial production.

In the Netherlands, a new aerospace project involving Fokker and a plan to extract alcohol from wheat are in their early stages, while projects into medical decision-making aids and disposable medical sensors are awaiting Eureka status.

West German officials say they are looking at developing a low pollution coal-fired power station, a study into the earth's crust in Europe and a multi-purpose deep-sea drilling vessel.

Some of the problems which dogged Eureka's launch have been solved, although the solutions drawn up by officials still need ministers' approval at the next conference in Britain this June.

A row over organisation — with large states arguing against new bureaucracy and smaller states afraid they would be left out — has been solved with a six-person coordinating secretariat.

The question of who will own Eureka discoveries has also been solved with a proposal that only firms participating in a scheme will own the rights to a new development.

Diplomats noted this progress was achieved in a series of private meetings between officials in contrast to the publicity given to the Paris conference and a second one in Hannover.

But the question of who will pay for the research is still on the table. Governments, apart from France which has pledged one billion francs (\$140 million) in funds and state subsidised loans for 1986, have been reluctant to offer money.

And despite U.S. Congress threats to slash American defence and "Star Wars" spending, which reduced the counter-appeal of the \$4.8 billion in cash scheduled for SDI research in 1987, a few European firms are still hesitant about Eureka.

The huge Dutch electronics group Philips said it had no definite projects with the Eureka stamp as it waited for a clearer indication of how Eureka will proceed and how projects will be financed.

One government official also voiced concern that Eureka is still too vague. "At least SDI has a goal. Eureka hasn't got one goal, just several targets. It's not very coordinated and we'll have to see what happens in three or four years," he said.

But an industry spokesman added: "It's far too early to judge, but we've got to catch up with the U.S. and Japan and at least Eureka is better than nothing."

Pioneer 12 makes observations of Halley's comet

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — U.S. scientists report that the Pioneer-Venus spacecraft has detected a giant, egg-shaped cloud 15 times larger than the sun surrounding Halley's comet as it hurtles through space on its 76-year-tour of the solar system.

The Pioneer 12 space probe, which has been studying the atmosphere of Venus since 1978, has completed six weeks of Halley observations during the comet's most spectacular period when it is closest to the sun, called "perihelion."

Scientists of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) report that Pioneer's delicate instruments have sent back important data about the composition, shape and velocity of the famous comet just days prior to dramatic flybys by European, Soviet and Japanese spacecraft beginning on March 6. The five spacecraft, including two from the Soviet Union and two from Japan, will converge on the comet over a period of one week.

The Pioneer-Venus orbiter, which was to end its direct observations of Halley on March 6, was the only spacecraft in a position to observe the comet at its closest solar approach on February 9. At that time Halley came within 86 million kilometres of the sun, roughly halfway between the orbits of Venus and Mercury. By the time, the fleet of international spacecraft encounter the comet this month, it will have moved about 146 million kilometres away from the sun, almost to Earth's orbit.

Because the Earth was on the opposite side of the sun from both Venus and the comet at perihelion, direct observations from our planet were nearly impossible.

At perihelion, the raging heat of the sun vaporizes the comet's ices faster than at any other time. The

resulting gases, excited by the sunlight, emit light themselves, and the dust particles dragged off the comet with the vaporized ice reflect high levels of sunlight, causing the comet to be at its brightest. The melting heat of the sun also causes Halley to "grow" its famous tail of water, gases and dust stretching 15 million kilometres into space.

Pioneer principal investigator Ian Stewart described Halley as a gigantic dirty snowball swinging past the sun at about 180,000 kilometres per hour. Halley is thought to be about 19 kilometres in diameter, made up mostly of fine dust, rocky material and water ice.

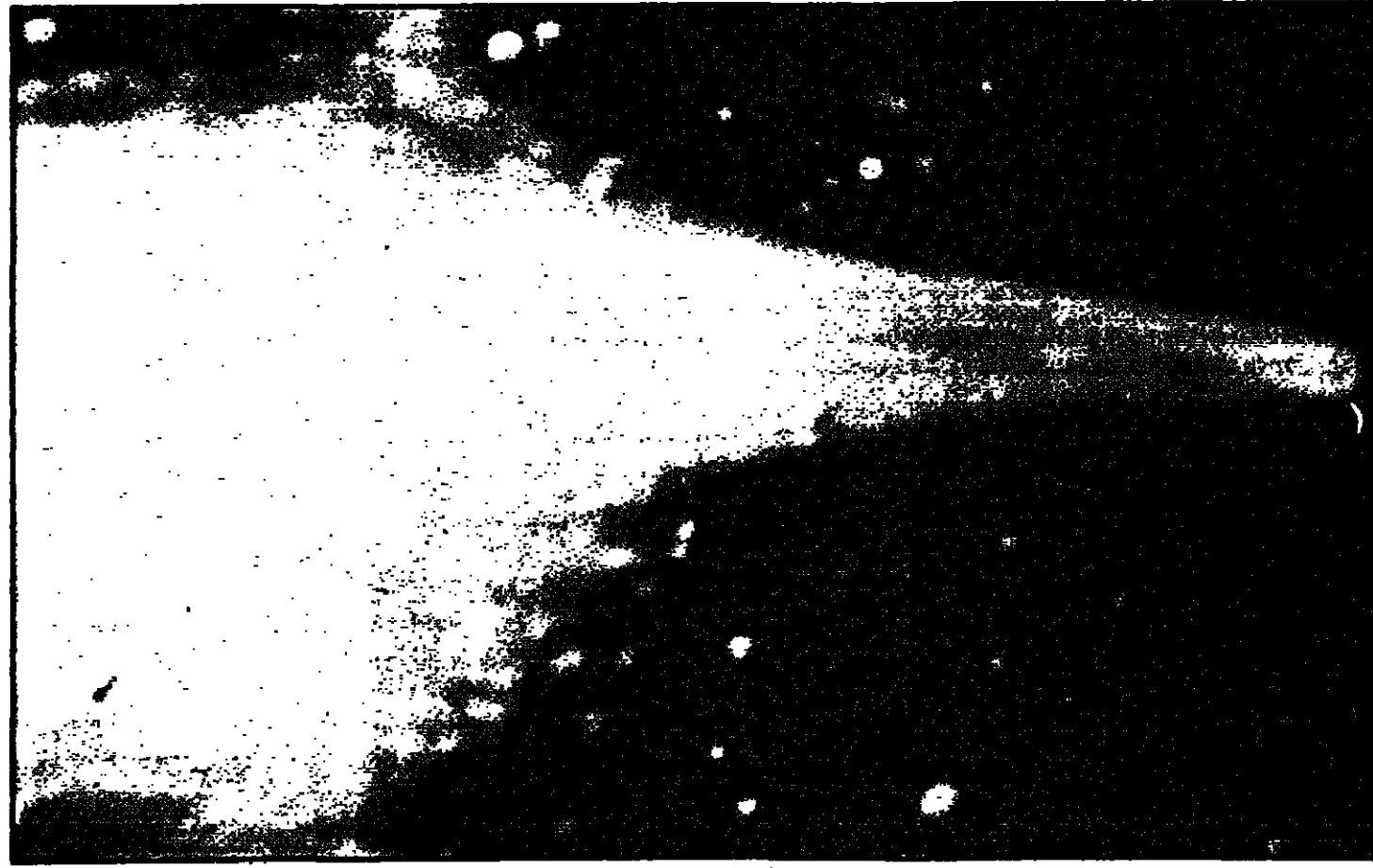
Stewart said Pioneer's observations of Halley have provided these significant findings:

— The vaporization of water from the comet is extremely variable, indicating that its nucleus is very irregular. For example, the water evaporation rate on February 18 was 30 tons per second, but the next day the rate increased by 80 per cent to 70 tons per second.

— The comet is surrounded by an enormous cloud of atomic hydrogen 20 million kilometres in diameter and "probably the largest perceptible entity in the solar system at this time." The egg-shaped cloud, called the coma, is made up of concentric layers of different gases such as oxygen, carbon, sulphur and hydrogen, and provide scientists with indications as to the composition of the comet nucleus.

— Pioneer's ultraviolet spectrometer has provided scientists with an image of the hydrogen cloud surrounding Halley that is 20 times larger than a photograph of the comet in visible light. Ultraviolet light is invisible to the human eye.

Stewart said the comet's evaporation approaching and leaving perihelion tells scientists about its rotation. When the comet's ice



Halley's Comet as photographed on March 6 by the Soviet probe Vega-1 and relayed to the Soviet Institute for Space Research.

evaporates, the hydrogen atoms get energy from the sun. Seen in ultraviolet light, these atoms appear 30 times brighter than the planets appear in visible light. Scientists can determine the comet's rate of rotation when another region of the comet ejects hydrogen atoms with similar brightness.

Stewart also said that Halley's water evaporation rate provides an indicator for estimating the comet's age. Halley's water loss is about what is expected of a "young" comet, meaning that it has not been very long since it first entered the inner solar system, he said. "Old" comets develop pro-

TECTIVE coatings of dust to hold in their water, he added.

Scientists believe that millions and millions of comets reside far beyond the planets in the Oort cloud, about 19,000 million kilometres from the sun. Only a few journey into the inner solar system, and even fewer are captured into orbit to return again and again on a long and fiery trip around the sun.

Stewart described comets as frozen remnants of the material that formed the sun and the planets.

"These icy snowballs have been sitting in the deep-freeze of space

since the solar system formed out of the interstellar medium," he said. "And when comets first enter the inner solar system and first sense the heat from the sun and begin to sublimate (vaporize), the gases that come off the nucleus are gases from which the solar system was formed."

Stewart said that scientists were surprised to learn, for example, that the distant planet Uranus, recently observed by the Voyager spacecraft, contained more carbon monoxide than previously thought. "At the same time we're finding that comets seem to have more carbon monoxide," he said.

"And comets seem to be formed in the vicinity of Uranus. So we're connecting comets to planets more directly."

Stewart said the actual nucleus of Halley's comet will not be seen until Giotto, the European Space Agency craft, flies by the heart of the comet on March 13. Giotto is carrying television cameras and instruments to examine Halley's atmosphere and magnetic fields. Since the comet nucleus is small and surrounded by a bright coma, up to now all information on its composition has been "inferred by indirect means," he said — U.S. Information Agency.

July 1986

Egypt comes alive to stop Ivory Coast 2-0

CAIRO (R) — Egypt regained a chance to play in the next round of the 15th African Nations' Soccer Cup Monday with a convincing but hotly contested 2-0 (halftime 0-0) victory over Ivory Coast in Group A.

Egypt's goals came in the last 20 minutes, when an exasperated and rowdy home crowd of 70,000 had all but given up hope that the host team, defeated 1-0 by Senegal last Friday, would pull off a recovery.

The result was a bitter blow for the ambitious Ivorians, whose chances of appearing in the semifinals are back in the balance with only one day of Group A matches left to play.

Egypt's British manager Mike Smith told a news conference he was delighted the team had broken the jinx on scoring which has dogged them in a long series of recent contests.

The two teams, conscious that the match of critical, played hard and rough from the start, prompting Malawian referee Bester Kalombo to flash yellow cards at Ivorian right back Emile Gnahore and Egypt's Hamada Sidki before the first half was out.

Ivorian strikers Abdoulaye Traore and Pascal Ndri, who in their side's 3-0 defeat of Mozambique on Friday could make uncontested dashes at goal, found

their way skilfully blocked by fullbacks Sidki and Mohammad Omar Monday.

Mustapha Abdou and Tarek Yehia, meanwhile, filling the gaps Egypt left in its wings when playing Senegal, seemed about to demonstrate that this change in tactics would pay off.

The rhythm of attack and counter-attack continued into the second half, which saw Egypt's star striker Tahar Abu Zeid reappear despite a head injury he suffered last Friday.

Egyptian mid-fielder Shawkhi Ghareem took Omar's place in the 67th minute and six minutes later, with the game heading to a goalless draw, he scored Egypt's first goal of the tournament, dogging defenders in a crowded goal area to smash the ball left of keeper Gbolie Zagoui.

Ivory Coast made their own line-up change in an attempt to recover the initiative, putting Pascal Miezian on in place of striker Ndri.

The change came too late to make a difference and in the 84th

minute forward Gamal Abdul Hamid, standing close to the Ivorian goal post, picked up a free kick from winger Abdou in Ivory Coast's left corner and sent it home for Egypt's second.

In an earlier match on Monday, Senegal scored a decisive 2-0 victory over outsiders Mozambique to virtually assure itself of a place in the semifinals of the 15th African Nations Soccer Cup.

The win brought Senegal's points total to four with goals from right back Pape Fall and French exile Jules Bocande in the forward line.

Senegalese right back Pape Fall, playing upfield, scored in the 28th minute, zigzagging around a couple of Mozambican defenders and swinging the ball in off goalkeeper Filipe Chiskere's right arm.

Senegal took a more adventurous line in the second half against the increasingly distracted Mozambicans, but numerous assaults by Jules Bocande, top scorer in the French First Division, ran into trouble.

Goalkeeper Chiskere, apparently losing confidence in his defenders, began to edge forward dangerously to challenge the Senegalese forwards, often leaving the goal undefended.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Yugoslavia eliminates USSR from Davis Cup

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Yugoslavia defeated the Soviet Union 3-2 in their world group Davis Cup tennis tournament Sunday when Slobodan Zivojnovic overpowered Andrei Chesnokov in the last singles 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4. In the day's earlier singles, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union were tied at 2-2 after Bruno Oresar downed Alexander Zverev of the Soviet Union in straight sets 6-3, 6-2, 7-5. Zivojnovic, ranked 26th in the world, had a tough time beating the Soviet champion. The 24-year-old Yugoslav used his powerful service and volley play to score this decisive point in the match. "I did not expect this match to be so tough," said towering Zivojnovic, after he embraced his wife. A capacity crowd of 6,000 watched the event at the Pioneer Sports Hall, where play took place on green set surface.

Sayre captures 1st Los Angeles Marathon

LOS ANGELES (AP) — U.S. runner Ric Sayre, winner of the Long Beach Marathon a month ago, took a long lead early Sunday and held on to win the inaugural Los Angeles Marathon. Sayre, 32, crossed the finish line in 2 hours, 12 minutes, two seconds, a clear winner over an estimated 8,200 runners. Gidamis Shabanga of Tanzania was second, with Rod Dixon of New Zealand, winner of the 1983 New York Marathon, third. Nancy Ditz, the favourite in the women's division, was the first woman to finish, with a time of 2:36.27. Magda Ilands of Belgium was second. Sayre's final time was a personal best. His previous best was 2:13.22, which he ran in his victorious Long Beach Marathon on Feb. 2. The world best time is 2:07.12, set by Carlos Lopez of Portugal in April 1985 at the Rotterdam Marathon.

Van Basten raises goal tally to 33

AMSTERDAM (R) — Ajax striker Marco Van Basten continued his outstanding goalscoring form with a hat-trick Sunday as the Amsterdam club beat Heracles Almelo 7-0. Heracles had obviously not benefited from the five weeks' rest enforced upon them by the recent severe weather — they were beaten 8-1 at home in their previous game. The Heracles defence was virtually non-existent and Ajax were four goals ahead by the interval. Van Basten's treble Sunday was matched by that of team-mate John Bosman and boosted his tally for the season to 33. He is comfortably the leading scorer in the First Division which Feyenoord's John Eriksen second with 15 goals. First Division leaders PSV Eindhoven beat Excelsior Rotterdam 1-0. Ruud Geilert scoring the winner in the 65th minute.

Juventus hints it may hire Everton's Kendall

TURIN, Italy (R) — European Cup holders Juventus are considering Howard Kendall, manager of English First Division soccer club Everton, as a possible successor to coach Giovanni Trapattoni, who has announced his

intention to leave at the end of the season, Italian newspapers reported Sunday.

Other candidates include Como coach Rino Marchesi. Yugoslav Vujadin Boskov, the former Real Madrid coach now with Italian Second Division club Ascoli, and former Juventus player Bruno Mazzia, the papers reported.

Juventus chairman Giampiero Boniperti has already sounded out Marchesi, whose contract expires at the end of the current season. But he is said to be an admirer also of Kendall's management style, said the sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport.

Marchesi has been given the credit for a major revival in Como's fortunes since he went there to take over as manager late last year.

Faria, Timoumi to lead Morocco

By Charles Lambelin
Reuter

RABAT — Morocco will be led in Mexico by a Brazilian coach dubbed "La Baraka" — "Mr. Luck" — by the fans and two gifted players with the individual skills to inspire an unexpected World Cup success.

Jose Faria, the South American coach with a touch of luck, has coached Morocco to a long string of successes culminating in the World Cup finals and is certainly a born optimist.

More than a year ago, Faria, a softly-spoken Brazilian, confidently predicted his club the Royal Armed Forces would win the African Champions' Cup. They did — last December.

Now, he says in his broken French, that the hot weather in Monterrey, the north Mexican venue where Morocco have been drawn with Poland, England and Portugal, will favour his North African squad.

Faria has earned his nickname with his uncanny successes with the Armed Forces and the Moroccan national squad.

Since he arrived from Qatar early in 1984, he has taken Morocco to the Los Angeles Olympics finals, to victory in the Mediterranean Games and to the finals of the pan-Arab Games, the African Nations Cup and, now, the World Cup.

Under his guidance, Armed Forces, who provide the backbone of Morocco's team, have done a Moroccan League and Cup double, won the African Champions' Cup, and have reached the Moroccan Cup final again this year.

"How do we prepare for the World Cup? But we are preparing all the time," he said at the sports institute in a forest near Rabat.

where 20 players are in training. For the last three years, Faria, 52, has spent most of his time preparing Morocco and the Armed Forces for international events and he takes the World Cup in his stride.

"My favourites to win the World Cup? Brazil and West Germany," he said, adding that Morocco's fortunes in Mexico will depend on their first match against Poland on July 2.

Faria, who played right-wing with Rio de Janeiro's Fluminense, teaches a simple, collective style of play which revolves around two key players — Abdelmajid Dolmy and Mohamed "Cannonball" Timoumi.

Timoumi is a midfield strategist who combines the brains of a master tactician with the individual skills and explosive finishing power of a top-class striker.

The dark-skinned son of a Royal Palace guard, he broke his right ankle playing for Armed Forces against Cairo's Zamalek last November.

When I called at his modern Rabat flat, his mother asked me to wait at the door for a few minutes while he finished his noon prayer.

Timoumi, 26, who does not impress at first sight, said he will start physiotherapy soon and is confident of being fully recovered in time for Mexico.

His talents were first noticed by former French coach Guy Cuseau while he was playing with the palace team Tourgoua in 1978. He was picked for the national side at 19 and has since lost count of the number of caps he has won. "Between 60 and 70," he said.

Known to his fans as "mallem" — "The Master" — Timoumi said talent was not enough to reach the top in soccer. Hard work was also needed, he said.

A natural left-footer, he has superb control learned in his childhood when he played barefoot. But he may be playing his last season in Morocco. The palace — King Hassan takes a personal interest in the soccer team's fortunes — has let him know that he will be allowed to play abroad next season, probably for a leading French, Belgian or West German club.

Timoumi, an attacking midfielder in the Moroccan 4-4-2 formation, is closely supported by Dolmy, a veteran attacking sweeper with Casablanca's Raja club. Solid and dependable, Dolmy has a gift for turning defence into attack with a single pass. He is very popular in Casablanca, though he rarely smiles and never talks to the press.

Behind him towers Badou Zaki, a goalkeeper from the rival Casablanca Wydad club, who is spectacularly good at saving penalties, has an enormous kick and throws well to set the attack in motion.

Zaki's wife comes from Finland, he has a reputation as a big eater, and he often captains the national team, on which he has a great influence.

Morocco's best forwards are professionals in Europe — the tall skilful Merry Krizmau, who has played for Bastia, Strasbourg and Metz and now leads Le Havre, and Aziz Bouderbala, a right-winger with Sion in Switzerland who packs a powerful shot. Bouderbala is also a stylist and a musician who plays the Luth, a Moroccan type of guitar.

Another foreign-based star who may boost their forward line is Merry Krizmau's brother Mustapha, who plays for Valenciennes in France.

U.S. wins Davis Cup tie with Ecuador

GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador (R) — Jimmy Arias defeated Raul Viver of Ecuador 6-3, 6-1, 6-4 Sunday to clinch a 3-2 victory for the United States in a first-round Davis Cup tie.

Earlier in the day, Andres Gomez had brought Ecuador level with the United States at 2-2 when he beat Aaron Krickstein 3-6, 7-5, 6-1, 7-5 in a match which lasted just under two hours.

Arias broke Viver twice in the first set and twice in the second set.

Viver was outclassed in every area of play and never was able to break Arias' serve. But he never gave up the fight.

In the third set, Viver saved four break points against his serve to go ahead 2-1. But he missed a chance to break Arias in the next game and take a 3-1 lead when the American put away an overhead smash.

Arias broke Viver in the fifth

game with another overhead, then served out the match to a deafening background of chants and groans from the crowd.

Arias clinched the tie for the United States on a high backhand volley winner and turned to clench his fists at the hostile fans as his teammates ran onto the court to congratulate him.

"The crowd didn't bother me that much in the last game. I was so focused, Viver would have had to hit four winners which luckily he couldn't do," Arias said.

Commenting on the prospects of the U.S.'s second round match in July, U.S. captain Tom Gorman said: "If we go indoors against West Germany, I might make a few changes on this team, but I have been very happy with the performances of my players this week."

If the United States faces West Germany in the second round, the tie will be played in the United

States on an indoor supreme court. If the United States faces Mexico, it will be played away on clay.

Earlier, Gomez's victory over Krickstein had brought Ecuador level with the United States at two matches all.

Gomez, who has lost once on his home courts, came from a set and 2-4 down to win the match and keep Ecuador's hopes alive.

Krickstein got off to a fast start, winning the first set on a single break of Gomez's serve, 6-3 in 49 minutes.

Gomez dropped serve in the opening game of the second set, and Krickstein moved ahead 4-3, using his powerful forehand to win crucial points from the backcourt.

At five-all, Gomez began to attack Krickstein on his weaker side, the backhand, holding serve for 6-5, then breaking Krickstein for the set.

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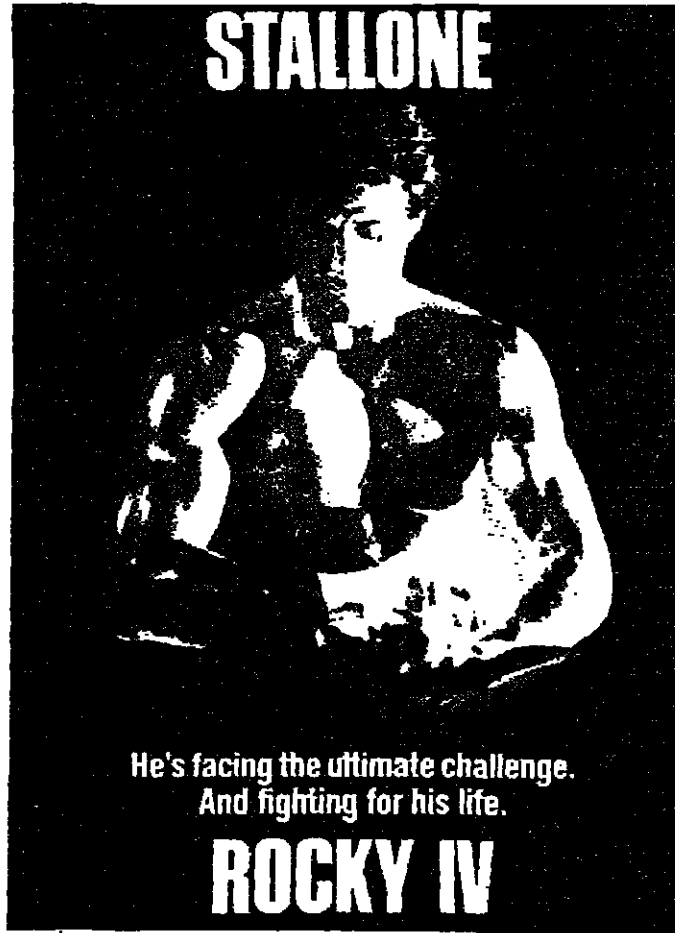
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Tel: 675573
THE PRIZE OF PERIL
(Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Japan's trade surplus rockets

TOKYO (R) — Relentless exports gave Japan a huge trade surplus with the United States in February, despite international efforts to solve the problem by pushing up the yen against the dollar.

Japan's surplus with the United States surged to \$3.73 billion from \$2.33 billion in February last year, the finance ministry said Monday.

Japan also posted an overall \$3.90 billion trade surplus with all its trading partners, almost double its \$2.34 billion surplus in the same month a year ago.

To narrow the gap, central banks of the major industrialised nations agreed in September to encourage the yen to rise, but so far the effects are not showing.

"The impact of the yen's gain will not appear in the numbers for another three to six months," a Mitsubishi Bank economist said.

Economists said although the yen has advanced 33 per cent over the past year, there is a time lag because Japanese companies are

still making shipments under previously signed contracts. It means that popular consumer exports such as cars, video-recorders, cameras, and televisions will cost more.

Mr. Haruo Muto of the Bank of Tokyo said although Japan's exports may have risen in value, their quantity has declined.

The overall volume of exports dropped 4.6 per cent in February, he added.

Shipments increased in value because exporters have raised prices by about 50 per cent of the yen's appreciation against the dollar over the past year, Mr. Muto said.

Japan's overall exports jumped 16.6 per cent from February last year to \$15.06 billion. Imports edged up only 5.5 per cent to \$11.16 billion.

Much of the increase was caused by a 25.7 per cent jump to \$5.73 billion in shipments of goods to Japan's major trading

partner the United States.

The slow pace of imports was also helped by a 13.2 per cent fall to \$2.00 billion in demand for U.S. products.

Japan may run into serious trouble unless signs of improvement in the figures appear soon, according to Mr. Michael Woatich, Chemical Bank's foreign exchange consultant.

"If the stronger yen does not look like it is going to have a significant effect, calls for protectionist measures will intensify, especially with the U.S. November elections just around the corner," he said.

Japan may also be attacked by its major Western partners at the Tokyo summit in May, he said.

Japan's exporters are already feeling the bite of the strong yen, now 180 to the dollar compared with about 256 a year ago. Many are now looking for increased domestic sales.

ICU officials seek progress in trade ties

ANKARA (R) — Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) ministers meet this week to seek progress in so far as efforts to boost economic and commercial cooperation.

Comcoe, the standing Committee for Commercial and Economic Cooperation, opens its second meeting on March 14 in Istanbul with a draft agenda covering discussion of trade finance, trade information, an Islamic payments clearing union and other issues.

Many of the ICO's 45 members are expected to send both trade and agricultural ministers, who will hold separate talks and report back to the final session on March 16.

Comcoe, set up by an ICO summit in Saudi Arabia in 1981, had its first meeting in November 1984 and a small group of ministers held a follow-up session last September.

A background report on the meeting made available to Reuters says greater cooperation is needed to build economic muscle and harness the potential in human and material resources of the Islamic World and its one billion people.

The report acknowledges that ideas for economic cooperation have yet to reach the stage of being "operational and substantial" and calls for programmes "to give real meaning and shape to mutual cooperation."

It cites as one problem for the ICO "the critical financial situation arising out of non-payment of contributions by a large majority of member states."

Turkish officials say many members are not enthusiastic on ICO economic cooperation and prefer traditional trade patterns and regional groupings like the Gulf Cooperation Council.

As a result, many proposals centre on expanding the role of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB), which has been shown to be effective. These include a long-term trade financing scheme, which will be a major topic at the talks.

The IDB, which already finances short-term trade, has produced a detailed study on how a long-term scheme might run.

It says the aim would be to increase trade among Islamic states in non-traditional exports and lists a range of finished and semi-finished goods that could benefit from credits ranging between 1½ and five years.

One proposal is for a \$1 billion fund to cover 20 per cent of non-traditional exports over 10 years. Financing would come from the IDB, ICO member states and institutions, and investors in member states.

The ministers are also due to receive a report from the Casablanca-based Islamic Centre for Development of Trade on a planned trade information network, a databank of goods offered by ICO members, prices, customs details and other information.

The IDB has also produced a report on a possible multilateral ICO payments clearing union and an export credit guarantee scheme.

1986 Saudi budget is postponed

RIYADH (Agencies) — King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, in a nation-wide address, announced on Monday the kingdom's budget for fiscal 1986-87 has been delayed five months because of the world oil crisis.

The king told his subjects the kingdom was going through "extremely critical circumstances, as you know that the entire world also has been passing through an acute economic crisis."

"I am confident you will put your hands in ours to spare our country the drawbacks of the oil market trepidations," the king said in his radio and television address.

The statement was read at the outset of the weekly cabinet session chaired by the king. Information Minister Ali Al Shaer announced last week that the budget was to have been announced on Monday.

It was the first time in Saudi Arabian history that the kingdom conceded publicly that its budget was to be delayed. The king said he had instructed his ministers to continue operating under the existing budget.

He pledged unspecified action

by the Saudi government to "protect the economy against what others are doing to the (oil) market."

He said the kingdom was to cooperate with oil exporting countries inside or outside OPEC "to restore the oil trade to the course of logic and discipline as it should be."

Saudi Arabia is the world's largest exporter of crude oil. Its daily average rate of oil production has dropped from about 10 million barrels five years ago to less than two million last year.

The king noted that over the same period the price of oil retreated from about \$34 a barrel to "less than \$15."

Additionally, he said, the industrialised world's economic recession has "adversely affected the Saudi economy."

Officials here said the budget, expected to be around 150 billion Saudi riyals (\$40 billion) — 25 per

cent less than the 1985-86 budget — was delayed on account of the kingdom's inability to adequately predict its oil revenues in a sluggish market.

Bankers here said they were shocked by the government decision. One predicted increased uncertainty among investors because the government was expected to confront a difficult economy.

"This is incredible," said one banker, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "We had expected a budget truncated on projects, payroll and subsidies, but we were completely unprepared for this announcement."

King Fahd said in his address that he had instructed the government while revising the budget expenditure to ensure they maintained "all existing programmes designed basically for the prosperity of the citizen and those related to his income."

The ministers were also instructed to "leave untouched" the existing government fees and loan services, the Saudi monarch said. He also extensively outlined the achievements of the kingdom over

the recent years in various economic and social development fields.

"Who would have believed that a desert country like ours now daily produces about 1.7 million tons of wheat and 436 tons of dairy products aside from meat, fruit, vegetables and dates," King Fahd said.

As other examples, he listed 26 desalination plants producing 500 million gallons of sweet water daily, 1,800 factories, 1.3 million telephone lines and 30,000 kilometres of macadamised roads.

King Fahd, a one-time education minister, also noted that more than 2.1 million students were enrolled in Saudi schools and universities, while hospital beds numbered 28,000 served by 15,000 doctors. Both services were offered free by the government, he underlined.

The kingdom also subsidised food, clothing and medicine to protect its citizens against the price fluctuations on the world market, he said. The Saudi population is about 11 million.

Weak oil market stuns Canadians

CALGARY, Alberta (R) — Calgary, the oil capital of Canada, has been stunned by the swiftness of the world oil price decline which has abruptly ended optimism about economic rejuvenation prevailing just a few weeks ago.

Fears are rising, and this western city of 620,000 residents, sometimes described as one part each of the U.S. cities Houston, Dallas and Denver, is braced for the worst.

"We're going broke," one oil company executive lamented, while another said: "Some companies have reached the point of no return."

As recently as Jan. 31, Calgaryans were feeling a confidence unknown since the previous worldwide energy boom collapsed four years ago.

Drilling rigs and building cranes, twin barometers of good times in Alberta's vast oilfields, had returned to Calgary as signs of a sustainable economic expansion continued despite the downward drift of oil prices.

Employment was up, houses in the \$72,000 to \$180,000 price range were selling again, plans for gleaming futuristic new office towers were coming off the shelf and even the French Meridien Hotel chain was talking about building a luxury hotel here.

Economists felt events were changing too fast to draw conclusions about the oil price slide so they remained reluctant to revise optimistic forecasts until mid-February, when oil prices dropped below \$14 a barrel.

"The optimists now would be manic depressive," one oil industry observer commented.

The price of the U.S. benchmark crude, West Texas Intermediate, fell by nearly \$1 on Feb. 28 to \$13.25, the lowest since January 1978.

Analysts believe the drop in oil prices in the past two months, which has also put severe pressure on the Canadian dollar, may have already cost Alberta's energy industry \$432 million in lost investment.

"If the price of oil stays at 15 dollars (\$10.80), we'll see about three billion (\$2.16 billion) in cash flow taken out of the industry," one analyst predicted.

The scenario is a sharp reversal from the beginning of 1986, when most oil and gas companies continued drilling at almost record pace.

This boosted January house sales in Calgary by 23 per cent from a year ago and sent people flocking to sign up again for courses to become estate agents.

No one expected a revival of the great energy boom years of the late 1970s when housing prices, rents and wages were going up faster than inflation, all driven by a steady rise in oil prices that everyone assumed would never end.

In fact, many Albertans said they would like nothing better than to forget those giddy years and settle into a sedate, predictable growth pattern.

Although recovery was late and relatively weak, Alberta's economy in the past four years had come a long way from the depths of the recession when unemployment topped 15 per cent and mortgage foreclosure notices were commonplace.

In January, unemployment was down to about 8.4 per cent in Calgary and officials predicted that 1986 could even be better than

last year's relatively good overall performance.

Such predictions now seem hopelessly outdated and while no formal downward revisions are available yet, the province now appears headed into another recession.

"It's terrible but it's going to get a lot worse," one official commented.

"The axe is about to fall almost universally at just about every company," predicts Mr. Richard Gusella, president of Sceptre Resources.

Ominous signals of a new downturn for the oil industry were recent pessimistic announcements by several Calgary-based companies including Sulpetro, a major energy firm, which decided to sell a portion of its Canadian oil and gas properties to help survive the sharp decline in oil prices.

Sulpetro also imposed a "moratorium on all but the most essential capital expenditures."

Dome Petroleum, perhaps Canada's best known corporate debtor, has refused so far to say how its \$3.89 billion debt restructuring has been threatened by the oil price drop.

But analysts believe Dome and some other Canadian oil firms with heavy debts are suffering severe financial strains and will be forced to seek new concessions from their banks.

French government confirms rescheduling Polish debt

PARIS (R) — The French finance ministry Monday confirmed that Poland and its Western creditor governments have reached agreement on delaying repayments of Warsaw's foreign debts due this year.

The ministry gave no figures but said in a communique that at a meeting here last Thursday and Friday the Paris Club of Creditor Countries decided a rescheduling was necessary to ensure the success of Poland's economic programme.

Following the meeting diplomatic sources said the agreement covered a total of \$1.6 billion in outstanding debt obligations up to and including 1986, which Poland would now be able to repay over 10 years, including a five-year grace period.

Poland's total debt to the West was more than \$29 billion at the end of last year.

The communique said 17 nations took part in the meeting, including European countries, the United States, Canada, Japan and Brazil.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4470/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4018/28	Canadian dollars
	2.2695/2705	West German marks
	2.2640/55	Dutch guilders
	1.9220/35	Swiss francs
	46.48/53	Belgian francs
	6.9850/9900	French francs
	1544/1545	Italian lire
	180.40/50	Japanese yen
	7.2700/50	Swedish crowns
	7.1675/1725	Norwegian crowns
	8.3975/4025	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	341.30/342.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed mixed but with a slightly firmer bias in moderate to quiet trading. Dealers said interest centred around special situation stocks and those attracting week-end press comment. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was 3.2 down at 1570.6 after reaching a record 1577.0.

Government bonds showed gains ranging to 1½ points, reflecting slightly easier U.K. money market rates and underpinned by a firmer U.S. bond market, dealers added.

ICI was 13p down at 977 in ex-dividend form. Banks, mostly trading ex-dividend, were lower. Insurances were higher.

British Telecom closed 3p higher at 220 while Jaguar added 10p to 458 both ahead of final figures on Thursday. GEC lost at 206 and Lucas at 616 declined 2p apiece while Glaxo fell 16p to 875.

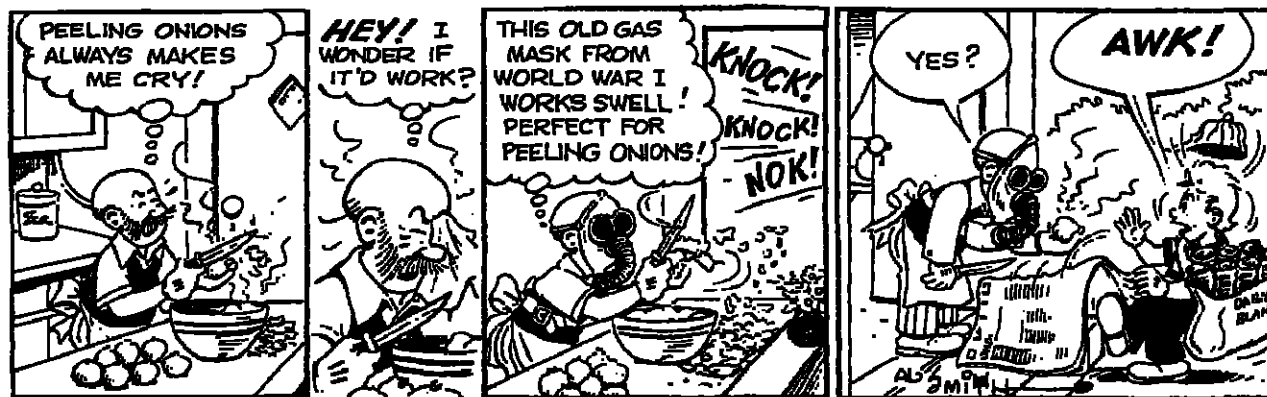
Among companies to announce results News International gained 100p to 1,000 after half-year figures and Transport Development Corp. rose 13p to 174 after its 1985 results. Bid speculation saw Lonrho 4p firmer at 283 and Woolworth 9p up at 540. Home Cinema closed 11p higher at 342 after a recommended 355.75p per share offer from Ladbrokes, 16p lower at 364, which also announced a 50 per cent increase in pretax profits for 1985.

Horoscope and crosswords not received

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



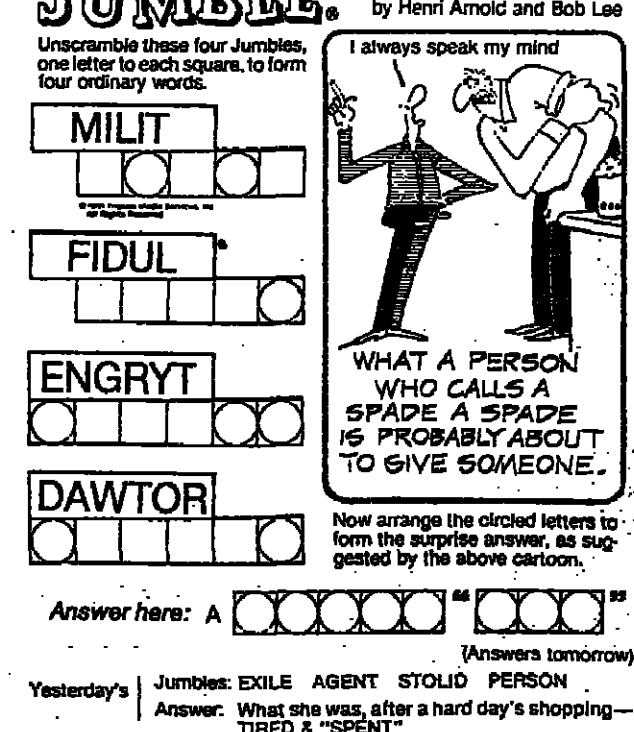
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



Marcos loyalists accuse Aquino of 'dictatorship'

MANILA (R) — Diehard supporters of Ferdinand Marcos accused President Corazon Aquino Monday of running a dictatorship and a former Marcos minister said the ousted leader was trying to pull the levers of power from exile.

Former Labour Minister Blas Ople told reporters he talked to Marcos in Hawaii by telephone last week and got the impression that he was still trying to run his New Society Movement (KBL) Party.

Mr. Ople, who described Marcos as "a Filipino Napoleon," said the ousted leader's involvement had caused a split in the party over whether Marcos should be allowed to run the KBL.

Two weeks after Marcos fled Manila following the military revolt which catapulted Mrs. Aquino to power, the KBL showed signs of revival by launching its first attacks on the 53-year-old president.

At a breakfast press conference on the day Mrs. Aquino moved her seat of government into the former president's Malacanang Palace, Marcos' allies called her government a "sophisticated dictatorship."

They said Marcos and his running mate in last month's election, Arturo Tolentino, were still the legally elected president and vice-president.

Manuel Garcia, former deputy justice minister, told Reuters Marcos had telephoned several leaders of the KBL and urged them to stay united.

He also said the party was considering changing its name to the Philippine National Party.

Mr. Ople, who is expected to

make a bid to head the KBL, said young leaders now wanted to run the party.

He said the party was unanimous in cooperating with Mrs. Aquino but attacked her plans to declare a revolutionary government where "alliance will be to a group of people, not constitution or laws."

Mrs. Aquino has expressed herself in favour of such a declaration. Her party officials said it would mean abolishing the National Assembly, still controlled by Marcos men.

The assembly last month declared Marcos the winner even though a majority of the votes were challenged. Mrs. Aquino said Marcos had cheated her of victory by fraud and intimidation.

Mr. Tolentino told the press conference he was still the legally elected vice-president. He said the new government was without laws to restrict its authority.

"There are no limits on it. It is a government of men, not laws," he said.

Mrs. Aquino moved her administration into Marcos' former palace in the centre of Manila Monday, despite continuing bureaucratic chaos caused by the sudden change of government.

Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden, who arrived Sunday night, was the first overseas minister to call on her. He offered to

increase aid to the Philippines by 50 per cent to \$25 million a year.

Officials said Mrs. Aquino's first day at the palace — she is working out of a tiny guest house and has vowed not to live in the Malacanang — was complicated by a lack of telephones.

The main palace building where Marcos lived until two weeks ago and which Mrs. Aquino will use as her office has been closed for stock-taking with the help of auditors.

Philippine Cardinal Jaime Sin said Monday that the Roman Catholic Church stood ready to help and advise the new government of Mrs. Aquino but he said he was not considering a role in administration itself.

"I am not joining the government but I am involved in many things," he told an interviewer on British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) breakfast radio.

He listed education, the Ministry of Justice, land reform and feeding the poor as church interests. "These are activities which have something to do with the activities of the church," he said.

As for if he would play a direct role in the Aquino government, he replied: "I will continue to do my job and every now and then to be able to help people, to make them very happy. That is the role of the bishop."

Sin, who is visiting Britain, said he was ready to help. "If she asks me about something which has something to do with the moral aspect I will certainly call experts to guide her."

Moscow doubts whether U.S. should house U.N.

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda published a commentary Monday which argued that many countries doubted whether the United Nations headquarters should remain in New York.

The commentary by the official Soviet News Agency TASS was first issued two days ago in response to a U.S. announcement that the Soviet U.N. mission must be cut from 275 to 170 staff and the Byelorussian and Ukrainian missions must also be reduced.

It was republished in Pravda under the headline: "The unlawful acts of Washington — is it expedient to have the U.N. headquarters in the United States?"

The article charged that the United States had for years conspired to "a massive terrorist campaign against the U.N. missions of Socialist countries, progressive developing states and national liberation movements."

"In this connection a whole number of countries voice quite justified doubts over the expediency of having the U.N. headquarters in the United States," it said.

The article quoted a Cuban official as saying U.S. policies would force international organisations to reject the United States as a host country.

It quoted Libya's ambassador to the United Nations as saying the U.S. actions had "flagrantly violated not only the headquarters agreement between the United Nations and the United States but also norms of civilised behaviour."

U.S. disillusioned with U.N.

In 1983 a U.S. delegate to the United Nations, Charles Lichtenstein, suggested his country's disillusion with the organisation was so great that the United States would not object if the headquarters was moved from New York.

The State Department said his remarks did not reflect official U.S. policy, but the official Soviet media were quick to argue that they showed the United States appeared incapable of fulfilling its international obligations.

The commentary in Pravda said an anti-United Nations campaign existed in the United States which had taken the form of "bomb blasts and acts of arson at buildings housing diplomatic missions, acts of vandalism and hooliganism, intimidations and threats of physical violence."

Swedish police prepare massive security screen for Palme funeral

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — Swedish police, aware the cold-blooded killer of Prime Minister Olof Palme is still on the loose, are preparing a massive security screen for world leaders coming for his funeral.

At least 1,000 police will be on duty in the Swedish capital on Saturday when Mr. Palme is buried in a ceremony to be attended by at least 10 prime ministers, a handful of presidents and the secretary-general of the United Nations.

Police chief Hans Holmer told newsmen Sunday security for Sweden's largest-ever gathering of statesmen would be as tight as possible, but he is coming under increasing pressure for failing to track down Mr. Palme's assassin.

Police sources admit the failure has affected morale in the Stockholm Police Force. There is little fear that Mr. Palme's murderer will return to strike again, but guards have been alerted that some of the visiting heads of state are more controversial than Mr. Palme.

Holmer said Sunday investigators had received more than 10,000 tips from the public in and outside Sweden since Mr. Palme's murder on Feb. 28, but with little result.

Police have issued a composite picture of a man they believe may

be the killer, seen as he ran away from the scene of the crime in central Stockholm by a portrait painter who re-created his face for police.

There were few developments over the weekend. Holmer said police investigations were being carried out "methodically" and could take several weeks.

Little progress has been made in the hunt for a car seen as crucial to the murder hunt. A Stockholm taxi driver reported seeing a man leap into the passenger seat of a Volkswagen Passat Saloon near the scene of the killing.

Police have a partial description of the car's registration plate, but Holmer said they have not yet tracked it down.

As the hunt continues, the shrine erected at the scene of the murder is still attracting thousands of mourning Swedes. Police were forced at the weekend to close surrounding streets as crowds swarmed near the murder spot, now covered with roses.

The people of Oslo, the Norwegian capital, honoured Mr. Palme here Sunday night with an open-air meeting, a torch-light parade and a memorial service attended by King Olav in Oslo Domkirke, the Norwegian capital's main cathedral.

About 10,000 people, all carrying blazing torches, gathered outside Oslo Raadhus, the red, two-towered city hall.

Svante Lundkvist, the Swedish minister of Nordic cooperation, and Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian Labour Party chairwoman and former prime minister, remembered Mr. Palme for "unfailing struggle for peace, non-violence and the open society."

"If we give up this struggle, his great sacrifice will be in vain," Lundkvist said.

Palme's murder will leave lasting marks on our lives and our history. We feel it as a plot against our culture, our democracy and our way of life," Mrs. Harlem Brundtland said.

Aase Kleiveland, the Norwegian entertainer assigned as hostess at the Eurovision Song Contest final in Bergen next May 3, performed Mr. Palme's favourite peace song before the crowd joined the torch-light parade to the cathedral.

Prominent leaders of political parties, trade unions and peace movements joined the parade, carrying Norwegian, Swedish, United Nations and red Socialist Movement flags — 12 of each. At the front was a large portrait of Palme with black mourning crape.

COLUMN

Brothel operators take ideology course

JAKARTA (R) — Brothel operators in Jakarta's red-light district have completed a course in Indonesia's state ideology to learn to treat their girls more humanely, the English-language Jakarta Post said Monday. More than 230 people took the month-long class in Pancasila, the state ideology which is based on the five principles of belief in one God, humanism, social justice, democracy and national unity. The brothel operators were urged to avoid oppressing the women working for them and to improve their living standards. The Post reported. Prostitution is legal in Indonesia in designated districts.

Chinese mayor sacked for watching pornographic films

PEKING (R) — The vice-mayor of Dalian has been sacked for watching pornographic films and the east China port's newspaper said some communist Party officials had become addicted to such entertainment. The Dalian Daily said Mayor Hong Yuandong violated state law and party rules by watching "yellow" video tapes and had also "interfered in efforts to ban pornographic material." An editorial warned that pornography was as harmful and as insidious as opium was in old China. It said the films had seduced many officials into giving up their revolutionary ideals.

Australia seizes huge amount of cannabis

SYDNEY (R) — Police seized 600 kilograms of cannabis worth four million dollars (\$2.8 million) from a camp in a remote area of North Western Australia Monday. Three men, believed to be members of a highly organised drug trafficking gang, fled the camp in a small boat, police said. The raid followed a week-long operation by police and customs agents. Police said the hunt was continuing.

Marcos plan to rent mansion hits a snag

HONOLULU (AP) — Exiled Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and his family remained at Hickam Air Force Base on Sunday while his plans to lease a mansion hit a snag. The occupant of the property, Zoltan Rudolics, a commercial real estate agent, is willing to rent to Marcos, but the owner isn't. T. Carrick Jordan said Rudolics can't rent the property that includes a main house and servants quarters until Rudolics pays off a \$25,000 option to purchase.

Tribesmen 'exorcise' Marcos bust

MARCOS PARK, Philippines (AP) — As gongs and drums were pounded under a blazing tropical sun, four Ibaloi tribesmen slit the neck of a squealing black pig and poured its blood on top of a four-story-high bust of ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos. "They are driving away the evil spirit of Marcos so it will never again mingle with the people," one of the tribesmen, Jimmy Panganiban, told reporters who traveled Sunday to the northern town of Agoo to watch the Ibaloi reclaim land from which they were driven nearly 10 years ago. About 500 other people, including tourists, members of other hill tribes and residents of nearby towns, witnessed the ritual, a substitute for an earlier Ibaloi plan to blow up the concrete structure with dynamite.

Croquet takes Chinese province by storm

PEKING (R) — The game of croquet, usually associated with refined English garden parties, is taking the central Chinese province of Henan by storm. The People's Daily reported Sunday. It said the game, in which players knock balls through hoops, is also becoming very popular among pensioners in the eastern city of Wuxi. "The old people like croquet because it's safe," the paper said. "The game is also becoming very popular in Henan province," it added. The paper made no mention of strawberries and cream being served as refreshments during croquet contests in Wuxi and Henan.

Comet probe collides with particles

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's tiny satellite Susei that sped by Halley's Comet over the weekend unexpectedly collided with two bits from the comet, but its chief engineer Monday called the probe a "great success."

"Among those other big ships in the international armada, our little one fulfilled its duty," Prof. Tomizo Itoh of Institute of Space and Astronautical Science told a news conference. He was referring to Soviet, European and U.S. probes of the Comet.

"It was a great success, especially with the unexpected collisions," Prof. Itoh said.

Susei (comet), which is only 1.4 metres in diameter, zoomed by the Comet at a distance of 145,000 kilometres Saturday, measuring hydrogen atoms and cosmic wind.

A second Japanese satellite, the Sakigake, (harbinger), will fly within 6.9 million kilometres of Halley's on Tuesday. The Sakigake is designed to examine the Comet from a distance and collect data on the electromagnetic field

around it.

As it made its closest approach, Susei was struck by two dust particles emitted by Halley's, Prof. Itoh said. They caused no damage.

Susei found that cosmic wind blowing at a steady 450 kilometres per second outside the influence of the Comet, slowed down to about 100 to 200 kilometres per second around the Comet's outer surface, of the Comet.

It also detected heavy iron particles presumably emitted by the Comet.

16 countries take part in Santiago Air Fair

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile's booming defence industry puts its wares on display alongside those of 128 exhibitors from 16 foreign countries at Santiago's International Air Fair, the only event of its kind in Latin America.

Among the arms on show is a 450-kilogram cluster bomb from Industrias Cardoen, the brightest star of the Chilean industry, whose image was marred by an explosion at one of its factories in January that killed 39 workers.

Cardoen has sold thousands of its smaller bombs to Iraq for use in the Gulf war, earning \$100 million in 1985.

The new bombs contain some 500 bomblets — almost twice as many as in the smaller versions — which scatter in mid-air when the bomb explodes, to devastate a wide area.

The company is also showing a mock-up of its latest project, a light military helicopter for developing countries which can be based on the BO-105 of the West German company Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB).

Among the largest exhibitors at the air fair are Israel and South Africa which, like Chile, have developed domestic arms industries.

South Africa's Armscor is showing its own version of the cluster bomb, designed for use at low altitude with 40 spherical bomblets scattering in all directions and exploding above ground.

Brazil, the giant of Third World arms manufacturers, is also well represented with aircraft, weapons and its spectacular Da Fumaça Aerobatics Display Team.

Although the United States is barred from selling arms to Chile because of the military government's human rights record, its companies are taking part and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is showing a model of its space shuttle.

Planes from Poland, which has no diplomatic relations with Chile, and Sweden, whose relations are strained, did not arrive as advertised. The U.S. agent for the Polish Dromader plane does have a display stand, however.

Other countries participating are France, Britain, Finland, Argentina, Japan, Italy, Canada, Switzerland, Austria, and West Germany. A dozen air force delegations — among them Zaire and Saudi Arabia — will be attending.

3 detained Lesotho rebel officers reportedly die

MASERU (R) — Three army officers, including the leader of a brief rebellion within Lesotho's Paramilitary Force two days before a military coup in January, have died in detention, informed sources said Monday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters the dead were Col. Sehlabo Sehlabo, the rebellion leader, Brig. B.M. Ramotsekoane, and an unidentified junior officer.

Brig. Ramotsekoane was former deputy commander of the Paramilitary Force under Maj. Gen. Justin Lekhanya who has since taken over as the country's military leader.

The sources said they did not know the circumstances of the deaths or when they occurred. Government comment was not immediately available.

Col. Sehlabo led a mutiny by

about 35 men at Makoanyane Barracks just outside Maseru on Jan. 17 which was crushed by troops loyal to Gen. Lekhanya.

He and 23 of the mutineers surrendered, four were officially reported to have been killed while the rest escaped.

On Jan. 20 Gen. Lekhanya announced that he seized power and removed Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan from office.

The mutineers were regarded as supporters of the youth wing of Chief Jonathan's Basotho National Party, which the Jonathan government had been arming in recent years.

Brig. Ramotsekoane was widely regarded as a rival of Gen. Lekhanya and was significantly missing from the new council of ministers when it was announced later in January.

Delhi police arrest 150 Tibetan demonstrators

NEW DELHI (R) — Police arrested about 150 Tibetan refugees, many of them struggling and shouting as they were bundled into buses, who tried to demonstrate outside the Chinese embassy Monday.

The demonstrators were arrested at the start of a two-kilometre march to the embassy to mark the 27th anniversary of an uprising against Chinese rule.

It was the first time in years that Tibetans had been stopped from demonstrating outside the Chinese embassy.

Deputy Police Commissioner B.K. Gupta said they were arrested for ignoring an order Sunday banning demonstrations in the diplomatic area.

Hundreds of police with riot shields and helmets barred the route to the embassy, which was also heavily guarded.

with those children. To their families and to all of you, I say I'm sorry."

The commission appointed by the mayor found Mr. Goode "failed to perform his responsibility" in part because he did not halt an operation which risked the lives of children.

"I thought the plan would work. We all know it did not," Mr. Goode said. "In trying to save lives, lives were lost. In attempting to rescue a neighbourhood, it was destroyed by fire."

Waldheim denies Nazi past in television interview

VIENNA (R) — Former U.N. head Kurt Waldheim Monday pursues his bid to become Austria's next president, confident that he has finally put to rest allegations that he once belonged to two Nazi organisations.

In an 80-minute television interview Sunday, Dr. Waldheim denied all charges of a Nazi past and said he was the target of a smear campaign "unprecedented in Austria's post-war history."

"After the interview we got lots of calls from people from all walks of life praising the clear and successful way he had defended himself against these charges," a spokesman for Waldheim's election campaign office told Reuters.

"He will be touring Vienna today and we are confident he will get a rousing reception from the people," he added.

The controversy over the alleged past of Waldheim, 67, presidential candidate for Austria's Conservative Opposition People's Party (OeVP) in the May 4 election, broke last week.

The Austrian weekly Profil and the New York Times published

articles alleging he had covered up membership in two Nazi groups and his military past in the Balkans.

"I was neither a member of the (Nazi) Brownshirts (SA) or of the Student Federation," Dr. Waldheim told his interviewers.

"I am gradually getting tired of constantly having things imputed to me that are not true, and of people apparently being more prepared to believe others — the New York Times, for example, which has spread the most grotesque things about me — than the man who served his country faithfully for 40 years," Dr. Waldheim said in a voice filled with emotion.

At another point he declared: "I must say once and for all that I am sick of being told I am not telling the truth... I shall take every step against such slanders if it carries on."

OeVP leader Alois Mock sent a telegram of congratulations after the interview, praising Dr. Waldheim for his "impressive and precise presentation" which showed

his "uprightness, leadership qualities and firmness," Dr. Waldheim's spokesman said.

Peter Schieder, general secretary of the Socialist Party (SPOE) which is backing its own candidate, former Health Minister Kurt Steyrer, said Dr. Waldheim had still not explained why he had provided incomplete information about three years of his life from 1942 to 1945.

During that time Dr. Waldheim served with a German army command that fought brutal campaigns against Yugoslav partisans and engaged in mass deportations of Greek Jews.

Dr. Waldheim denied ever taking part in, or knowing about, atrocities committed by the units he served with in the Balkans. But his recent memoirs "in the eye of the storm" do not mention he rejoined the army in 1942 after an injury in 1941.

Maria Berger, chairman of the Young Socialists, issued a statement after the interview claiming the right of the young generation for a "clear answer on

their past during the Nazi era" from their parents and grand parents.

Dr. Waldheim had not answered key questions, she said. Last week the Socialist Students Union called on Dr. Waldheim to withdraw his candidacy.

In his interview Dr. Waldheim said he had received many messages of support since the allegations against him had appeared and he trusted Austrians to "draw the right conclusion" when they vote in May.

A poll published over the weekend by the OeVP showed the former U.N. chief had doubled his popularity lead in the presidential campaign since the allegations appeared.

The survey taken on Friday showed that 42 per cent backed Dr. Waldheim while 34 per cent favoured Steyrer.

A poll published by the mass circulation Kronen Zeitung Sunday showed 56 per cent of those asked did not believe the allegations of Dr. Waldheim's Nazi past.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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TRUMP COUP TOMMY STRIKES

Both vulnerable. South deals.
NORTH
♠ A 4
♥ 7 5 3 2
♦ A K 6 4
♣ J 8 7
WEST
♠ Q J 10 8
♥ Q 10 9 8
♦ J 8
♣ 10 9 5
EAST
♠ K 9 6 5 3 2
♥ Void
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ K 6 3
SOUTH
♠ 7
♥ A K J 6 4
♦ 8 5 2
♣ A Q 4 2
The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

Of late, bridge had been uninteresting for Trump Coup Tommy — which is a polite way of saying that he had been losing. Suits had been breaking normally and, as our readers well know, Tommy started only when he encountered a bad trump break. On all other hands Tommy pitched points with gay abandon in both bidding and play.

At first, Tommy thought that this was going to be another of those easy hands. He and his partner

reached four hearts on a normal auction and, when dummy hit the table, it seemed that, at worst, Tommy would lose a trick in each suit except spades.

All that changed rapidly. Tommy won the opening lead with the table's ace, ruffed a spade and cashed the ace of hearts. East's spade discard was like a breath of fresh air to Tommy — he was a man transformed. Now he was faced with two trump losers, and only a very special distribution would permit him to land the contract.

Tommy played quickly and surely. He crossed to the king of diamonds, took the club finesse successfully. It would not have mattered if it lost, cashed the ace of clubs and exited with a club. East won and could exit safely enough with a diamond, won on the board with the ace. Now Tommy simply led a trump and ducked it to West, who was faced with losing alternatives.

He could either lead a trump and give up one of his trump winners, or else lead a spade, which would allow Tommy to ruff in dummy while discarding his losing diamond. Either way, the defenders could get no more than three tricks.